

THE
ALCOHOL FACTOR
IN
SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

GEORGE BLAIKLOCK.

LONDON:
P. S. KING & SON,
ORCHARD HOUSE, WESTMINSTER.
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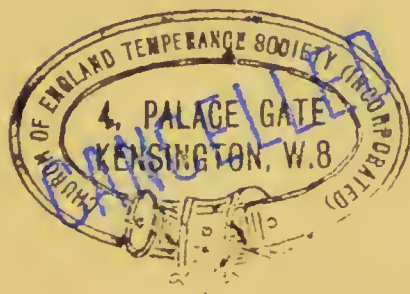


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IN SOCIAL CONDITIONS.



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SOME FACTS FOR REFORMERS.

THE
REPORT OF AN INQUIRY
PRESENTED TO
THE NATIONAL TEMPERANCE LEAGUE,
BY
GEORGE BLAIKLOCK.

Barrister-at-Law,
Chairman of the Social Economics Sub-Committee.

Edited by JOHN TURNER RAE, Secretary.

LONDON:
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1914.

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THE COMMITTEE OF
THE NATIONAL TEMPERANCE LEAGUE

have received the following Report with much appreciation of the services of their Colleague, the Chairman of their Social-Economics Sub-Committee, and the consultative research members of the Inquiry Committee who were good enough to co-operate with and advise him.

The Committee feel sure that the new and authoritative information derived from the investigation cannot fail to be of immense service to Social Workers and all interested in the welfare of the People. They therefore bespeak for the Report a favourable reception and a wide circulation by their members and supporters.

JOHN TURNER RAE,
Secretary and Editor.

PATERNOSTER HOUSE, E.C.,
January, 1914.

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THE NATIONAL TEMPERANCE LEAGUE.

INSTITUTED 1856.

President :

THE VERY REV. THE HON. J. W. LEIGH, D.D.,
DEAN OF HEREFORD.

THE OPERATIONS of the League are directed to producing in the public mind an intelligent and conscientious conviction in regard to what should be the individual and collective attitude towards the use of Alcoholic Beverages.

IT HAS SPECIALIZED for half a century in influencing the Medical Profession to engage in research into the nature of Alcohol and its effects, in small as well as large doses, upon the human organism in health and disease.

IT HAS INFLUENCED the Teaching Profession to encourage Scientific Instruction on Temperance in the Schools, into which it introduced the first chemical lectures fifty years ago.

IT APPROACHED the Churches of all Denominations at their Annual Assemblies, and by the circulation of special literature ; thus was created within religious circles an aggressive movement for Temperance.

IT COMMENCED to impress the Commercial Classes at the first Mansion House Meeting half a century ago, and has formed a Temperance Fellowship for the Leaders and Officials of Industrial Organisations.

IT HAS FORMULATED evidence derived from conferences of City Missionaries, Poor Law Officers, School Visitors, and other Social Workers, upon the Relation of Alcohol to Child-life, Environment, Destitution and Crime.

IT HAS HELD an important Inquiry as to the Incidence of Temperance Reform to recent developments in Social Investigation, Administration and Legislation, which has afforded the useful evidence contained in the following pages.

THESE OPERATIONS are continued, and are supplemented by up-to-date measures, as opportunity is afforded by the FUNDS supplied by the Members of the League—who, being abstainers, subscribe 2s. 6d. annually (those contributing 10s. receive regularly the National Temperance Quarterly)—and by those who sympathise with its non-political, unsectarian, scientific and constructive methods.

CONTRIBUTIONS MAY BE SENT TO :

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PATERNOSTER HOUSE, LONDON, E.C.

THE ALCOHOL FACTOR IN SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

SOME FACTS FOR REFORMERS;

Being the Report of a Special Inquiry conducted by
GEORGE BLAIKLOCK, Barrister-at-Law,
For the Committee of the National Temperance League.

INTRODUCTION.

HAVING undertaken, at the request of the Committee of the National Temperance League, to conduct a special inquiry into the relationship of alcoholic drinking with the social and economic evils which are being so widely discussed and deplored by all Schools of Social Reformers, I prepared a syllabus indicating the ground to be covered by the Inquiry which was approved by my colleagues.

The object of the Inquiry was to obtain evidence of a strictly scientific nature in regard to the causation of the undesirable and baneful elements in our social life. It was made with a view neither to defend nor to attack any theory or any school of social thought, but to obtain the actual facts in regard to each branch of the investigation.

The scope of the Inquiry included an endeavour to ascertain the results, if any, of recent social legislation and administration, and whether the evils under investigation were increasing or decreasing. The branches of study embraced (1) The Child, at home, in the school, and in employment; (2) The Adolescent, as regards "hooliganism," factory morality and "blind-alley" employment.

The Inquiry as to (3) Adults comprehended an extensive range covering the question of comparative wages and the standard of living of abstainers and drinkers respectively; the relation of intemperance to unemployment, distinctive occupations, police-court convictions, female-labour and unemployables, as well as the connection between environment and housing and sobriety.

The method of the Inquiry consisted of the collation of extracts from published and private reports from officials, public authorities, blue-books and other reports or authoritative works bearing upon the matters in question; evidence given *viva voce* to the Social Economics Committee, in special interviews, or in letters and statements upon specific points, by specialists and expert authorities.

I confess I did not anticipate the many difficulties encountered in obtaining reliable data. There would almost, in some quarters,

seem to be a conspiracy of silence in regard to the question of Drink. Refusal to assist came from persons and organizations from whom one would naturally expect hearty co-operation, although all agreed as to the desirability and utility of such an investigation.

The impression made upon my mind as the result of my labours is that the costly machinery of Government and Municipal departments and the enormous energy and financial resources of voluntary agencies are devoted too exclusively to what one might describe as the ambulance departments of social service. It is perhaps impossible to do too much in the direction of relieving and curing, but I am satisfied that far too little attention and effort are being devoted to recognize, to minimize and to destroy the causes producing the mischief.

Take, for example, the question of drinking in regard to evil social conditions. Every other avenue, chink and cranny of causation are explored by many reformers, but the potent liquor factor is too often ignored or referred to in the most casual manner. We are constantly hunting out and denouncing the economic gnats, but are too often oblivious of the alcoholic camels.

The reformer must follow where truth leads, and must face the facts, whether or not those facts harmonize with his particular theory. I have endeavoured to get at the facts through this Inquiry, and such evidence as has been collated and obtained speaks for itself.

There is one great cause for thankfulness, bad as things are ; the evidence obtained, in the main, shows that matters are improving, and that the horrors and mischiefs flowing from drinking, drunkenness and crime, immorality and poverty are slowly diminishing, although there has been a disquieting increase since 1910.

The effects of legislation in the various measures of social beneficence which have been passed in recent years, from the Children Act to Old Age Pensions and National Insurance, the more humane administration of the Law, the medical inspection of school children, with the power to help by medicine, food and cleansing, the growing condemnation of the slum and increasing desire for better houses and healthier and prettier districts, the reduction in the number of liquor licences, and, thanks to the efforts of temperance organizations, the increasing number of those who totally abstain from alcohol in all ranks of life, and increased temperance teaching and the growing anti-alcohol opinion and practice of the medical profession ; all these influences are slowly improving social conditions.

To these social influences I must add the increasing sense of spiritual aspiration and moral responsibility shown by the growth of the Brotherhood and Adult School Movements ; the work of the Churches, the Salvation Army, the Church Army and other religious agencies by which "Broken Earthenware" is not only being mended, but the breaking is becoming proportionately less.

The growing passion for social reform renders it increasingly necessary that the facts in regard to the pathogenic, economic

and social effects of alcohol should be more widely known and appreciated, especially its effect in deadening the sense of moral responsibility and arousing the baser sensual and animal nature, together with its narcotizing power over the desire for betterment, and its baneful influence in making men and women contented with a sordid and squalid environment and a low standard of life and comfort.

The aims and ideals of all schools of social reformers are in the main identical. We are working for the time when every individual shall have physical health, mental vigour, moral strength and spiritual life; when every toiler shall be able to earn and to have a living wage; when the masses, as well as the classes, shall be able to dwell in pleasant homes; when sordid ugliness shall give place to simple beauty, and squalid backyards shall blossom into pretty gardens; when the nation shall be a true commonwealth, strong, healthy, happy and free.

All must, therefore, unite and co-operate in recognizing and antagonizing every obstacle and every stumbling-block in the way of the upward march of democracy. The economist must deal with the mighty liquor factor, and the temperance man must recognize more fully that there are other evils besides drinking to be grappled with. There is room for each, while appreciating other points of view and sympathizing with special work on other lines than his own, to say of his special study, "This one thing I do."

The information obtained through this Inquiry under its various heads is of value and of interest, and will, I hope, be helpful to all students of social science, as well as to the temperance reformer. There is a mass of valuable information lying buried in blue-books and hidden away in various public reports which is too little known even to the student. Much of this has been disinterred, and is published in this report, together with some valuable contributions from individuals and societies who have been good enough to reply to my queries.

Nothing has impressed me more in the course of this Inquiry than the extent to which the evidence contained in the following pages might be usefully added to, were those most concerned, namely, the industrial classes themselves, to engage in a similar investigation within their own borders. This idea was mooted, and was favourably received, at the annual meeting at Manchester in September, 1913, of the Trades Union and Labour Temperance Fellowship, an organization inaugurated from *within* the Trades Union Congress at its Leeds meeting in 1905 by the National Temperance League. Valuable contributions to the discussion of the relation of the Alcohol Factor to Social Conditions have been made by distinguished Labour Leaders, but evidence *from within* the rank and file, giving experience of both drinking and abstinence, would be far more effectual in generating *from within* that movement in favour of true Temperance, without which Labour will never be emancipated from the burden of DRINK.

SECTION I: THE CHILD.

The evidence in regard to the condition of many thousands of children in our midst is of the gravest character, and discloses a state of things calling for drastic remedies. Before dealing with causation, let us see what is the actual state of things in regard to the child-life of the nation.

SCHOOL DISEASE STATISTICS: "Speaking generally, it may be said that out of the six million children registered on the books of the Public Elementary Schools of England and Wales, about ten per cent. suffer from a serious defect in vision; from three or five per cent. suffer from defective hearing; one to three per cent. have suppurating ears; six to eight per cent. have adenoids or enlarged tonsils of sufficient degree to obstruct the nose or throat, and thus to require surgical treatment; about forty per cent. suffer from extensive and injurious decay of teeth; about thirty or forty per cent. have unclean heads or bodies; about one per cent. suffer from ringworm; one per cent. from tuberculosis in readily recognizable form; from one to two per cent. are afflicted with heart disease, and a considerable percentage of children are suffering from a greater or less degree of malnutrition.

HINDRANCE TO EDUCATION: "It cannot be doubted that in the aggregate this formidable category of disease and defect means a serious amount of suffering, incapacity and inefficiency, which, at least, must greatly limit the opportunity and diminish the capacity of the child to receive and profit by the education which the State provides, and must involve a continual increase in the national burden of sickness and disablement.

THE GREATEST HANDICAP: "Lastly, it is clear that one of the greatest physical handicaps of school children as a class is that of malnutrition. It is certain that malnutrition and physical defects are closely associated and react upon each other; but it is difficult to determine their exact relation in each child, or to say in what degree malnutrition causes the other physical evils. Merely to increase the supply of food would, in many cases, not solve the complex problem of the individual child, although in many cases lack of food lies at the root of the mischief.

THE HOME: "The proper and sufficient feeding of the child is primarily the function of the home, and it is to the gradual improvement of the home that Local Education Authorities must primarily look for relief from the special difficulties which confront them through the malnutrition of the child. To the agencies which are working in that direction Local Education Authorities can themselves contribute materially by bringing into the home, through their own schools and classes, and through their medical and nursing services, knowledge of the best ways of feeding and caring for children."—*Chief M. O. Bd. Ed. Report*, 1910.

MALNUTRITION: "Special attention was called to this condition in the last report, and the statement was made that 'defective nutrition' stands in the forefront as the most important of all

physical 'defects from which school children suffer.' The truth of this proposition becomes increasingly apparent.

UNCLEANLINESS: "It is still, unfortunately, necessary, especially in some areas, for the School Medical Officer and his staff to spend a large amount of time and energy in combating conditions of uncleanness among children. Medical inspection, as indicated in previous reports, has revealed in this respect a state of things much worse than was generally known to exist, and though I am able to report substantial improvement from most educational areas, the reports of the School Medical Officers still indicate how much remains to be done before the discreditable conditions which still obtain in some schools can be removed.

VERMINOUS SCHOLARS: "The percentage of children found to be verminous has fallen from 22·4 in 1910 to 14·2 in 1911. In London Council Schools in 1910 the number verminous was 14,893; in 1911, 9,952 out of 69,914 examined. Of these 4,874 were proposed by the Nurse for exclusion, and 3,411 were excluded, 315 of the parents being prosecuted."—*Ibid*, 1911.

TUBERCULOSIS IN SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Area.	No. of Children examined.	Cases of Phthisis.	Other forms of Tuberculosis.	Total cases of Tuberculosis.	Percent. of Phthisis.	Percent. of other forms of Tuberculosis.
London	184,862	856	340	1,196	·46	·18
Worcestershire	9,870	467	13	480	4·732	·132

PREVENTION: "Although the number of actual cases of tuberculosis among children is small, the number of potential cases is large, and it is to these potential cases that preventive treatment must be directed if the incidence of pulmonary tuberculosis during adolescence and early adult life is to be lessened.

ENVIRONMENT: "*Dr. Basil Housman* (Assistant Medical Officer, Worcestershire) states:—'However comprehensive any organization for treatment may be, there will always be a supply of patients as long as dirty, ill-ventilated homes exist; gloomy, stuffy or chilly schools are permitted; and children, badly fed and clothed, spend a large part of their days and nights between the two. It is among such surroundings that we find the cases of anæmia, delicacy, malnutrition, general debility, and other conditions which defy both diagnosis and nomenclature, and it is these that may well provide recruits for the army of 'consumptives' in later life.'

MEDICAL TREATMENT: "The official report of the School Medical Officer of the London County Council (*Dr. Kerr*) for 1911 shows that 204,113 children were inspected, and that 120,927 children were found to be defective (excluding teeth), of whom

78,116 were recommended for treatment. Of this number (78,116) probably one-third may be regarded as likely to obtain treatment on their own initiative, leaving 52,078 to be provided for otherwise.

MOTHER-CRAFT: "Previous to the commencement of school life children are subject to no medical control or supervision. Yet it is during the first years of life that diseases are often acquired—diseases which might frequently be avoided by the use of common hygienic precautions, but which, if contracted, are liable, if they do not prove fatal, to cause permanent injury to the constitution. The health of the child is almost entirely dependent on the wise and intelligent care bestowed by the mother, and the average working-class woman, anxious though she may be to do the best for her children, is commonly handicapped by a lack of that practical knowledge of the ordinary rules of health which is needed for the successful upbringing of infants and little children.

PROVISION OF MEALS: "The figures for London are as follows :—

Season.	Number of Schools.	Average weekly number of Children fed, and Meals provided.	
		Children.	Meals.
1910-11	889	41,672	203,461

Chief M. O. Bd. Ed. Report, 1911.

NEGLECTED CHILDREN: "An exhaustive inquiry was made in one boys' school. Seven per cent. of the boys had no boots, or a mass of rags tied round their feet; eleven per cent. were very dirty and verminous; thirty-four per cent. clothing insufficient to retain animal heat, and boots leaking; thirty-four per cent. clothing and body dirty; nineteen boys in the school were the sons of widows, but they showed better physique than the average."

L.C.C. Ed. Co. M. O. Report, 1905.

ENFEEBLED AND UNFIT CHILDREN: "Dr. Bagster Wilson, for some twelve years Medical Superintendent of the Birmingham Medical Mission, in daily and hourly contact with the life in what Birmingham people know as 'The Floodgate Street Area,' says, speaking of the boys in that area: 'Physically, at ten, if not definitely crippled by tuberculous limbs and heart trouble or lung disease, or the results of burns or other accidents, or deafness or blindness, he is pale or a sallow mannikin, active and springy, but shallow or pigeon-chested, short-winded, with little chest expansion, and in height and weight considerably below the normal of the healthy. His hair is often wispy and often (in girls especially) uncombed and verminous near the scalp; his mouth is ill-formed; he constantly suffers from sore throat; his teeth are decayed and unclean; a serious state laying open the subject to all manners of disease and lessening the power of resistance.'"—From "*Child Life*," by G. B. Wilson, B.A.

CHILD VICE AND IMMORALITY: "Writing in *The Times* of January 3rd, 1913, on 'Evening Play Centres,' Mrs. Humphrey Ward says: 'I believe that many persons now giving their best energies to primary education will bear me witness when I say that one of the heaviest anxieties now weighing upon them is concerned with what seems to be, at any rate, the increase of immorality and vice among children. It is possible there is no real increase, and that we only know more about it. But that there is a terrible condition of things among certain strata of London children will not, I think, be denied by those who know. It is directly encouraged, in many cases directly caused, by the uncared-for street life after school hours, especially in the dark winter months and in the back lanes of our poorest districts; and one clear source of it, also, is the existence of open playgrounds without proper supervision. . . . But watch the children coming in on one of the bitter nights. There is always among them a large shivering and pinched minority, who, but for the centre, would be in the streets, locked out of their homes "till mother comes back" from the local factory, because of the danger of fire; or turned out because, in the crowded tenement rooms, a father tired with his day's work can't stand their noise, or some sick member of the family must be kept quiet.' " Mrs. Ward might have added to the causes mentioned—and because many of the parents are drinking in the public-house.

THE RECORDS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The full results of the medical inspection of children in London in 1911 gave over one-half of those examined as presenting defects, of which about two-thirds were recommended for treatment. This is neglecting dental defects, which are almost universal.

EFFICIENCY OF RESISTANCE: "Certain powers of destroying or digesting hurtful foreign elements, whether living or dead, are possessed by nearly all the body cells. In the more specialized structures these powers are in comparative abeyance, but are prominent in some leucocytes or white corpuscles, and especially those found in lymphatic structures. The defensive powers of these lymphatic cells may be seriously lowered by poisons such as alcohol, or the chemical products of fatigue; they may also be raised by certain chemical vaccines now prepared. These powers should be vigorous and active in ordinary general health.

TONSILS AND ADENOIDS: "The normal tissues about the surface of the nasal and mouth cavities are chiefly exposed to noxious foreign elements, of which perhaps the most dangerous are living organisms. In individuals of robust health the leucocytes have such powers that conditions of chronic inflammation rarely show, but in others of less vigorous constitution, or debilitated by depressing surroundings, or such causes as want of food or fatigue, chronic inflammatory conditions soon show themselves. In the Islington schools about one-third of the children were noted by Mr. Cecil Rowntree as having enlarged tonsils or adenoids, and in one-third of these (ten per cent. in all) to a pathological extent, while about one-third of this last number (about three per cent. of all) urgently required surgical treatment. In a careful

examination of 1,500 children in Chelsea schools Mr. Macleod Yearsley gave forty-four per cent. as having enlarged tonsils or adenoids, and seven per cent. as requiring surgical treatment.

OPEN-AIR SCHOOLS: "At Birley House the children on admission presented a miserable and uncared-for appearance, and as the weather was cold and windy, and many of them were suffering from common colds, it would be difficult to imagine a more wretched-looking class. They came from very poor districts and most of them were badly clothed and dirty. They were poorly nourished, had carious and defective teeth, and were anæmic. At an examination of candidates nominated by teachers for admission to these schools almost every child seen is in a grave condition. Of the eighty-six children first admitted fifty-two required dental treatment, and discharging ears were present in six, defective vision twelve, and for throat and nose defects seven were noted as requiring immediate treatment.

APATHY OF PARENTS: "The chief difficulty in obtaining treatment was the apathy of the parents, and several children had to be told again and again before any attention was paid. As the children come from parts scattered over South London it was not easy for anyone to get actually in touch with the parents, and still more difficult to get the parents to spend time and money in coming to the school to be interviewed in regard to the provision of treatment.

STATISTICS OF DISEASE: "The children at Shooter's Hill were of a similar type, but possibly even more anæmic than the children at Birley House. The conditions of the children admitted were noted as:—

Tubercular disease of lungs	5
Doubtful tubercular pulmonary disease	5
Other lung and chest diseases	40
Otorrhœa	15
Enlarged tonsils	14
Adenoids	10
Cardiac diseases	5
Diseases of the eyes	11
Enlarged glands (not obviously tubercle)	13
Tubercular glands	4
Chorea	1
Curvature of spine	5
Torticollis	1
General malnutrition	49

COST OF TUBERCULOSIS: "During the ten years I have been in charge of the medical supervision of London Elementary schools a third of a million has been actually paid out for the education of children who died of tuberculosis before they were out of their 'teens. If the expense of cripple schools and of hospital and other medical treatment is added, the cost of this disease in school children in London in that time ran into a round million. During the past decennium the London Education Authority has expended over £30,000 annually for the education of children who have died from tubercle before attaining adult working life.

HEREDITY AND CONDITIONS : " Whilst the residential school of recovery would take the child out of its environment of darkness or dirt, or even tubercular infection, and restore it to as healthy a condition as possible, it cannot wipe out the results of a defective heredity, or entirely prevent the recurrence of effects on a return to the old environment. The causes of most of the debility and ill-health seen among school children are the social conditions arising from sweated land, bad housing and hopeless poverty.

IMPROVED CLEANLINESS : " A complete report on the scheme cannot be made until all the projected stations are working, as until the scheme is complete, separate stations are so overworked that the results in the individual schools are not satisfactory. But the definite improvement in schools which are well situated with regard to cleansing is more than can be expressed in figures of children cleansed. The children come better clad, and where, at the first glance almost, the nurses used to find all the garments infested with vermin, they need now carefully to examine undergarments to discover the conditions. Still, the reports are that there is so much work that the nurses attached to the centres cannot fully cope with it.

HEART DISEASE : " Dr. Cardale examined particularly over 500 necessitous children—by this, meaning children fed at school. Of these 234 belonged to the Isle of Dogs, and 283 to the Homerton district, and he states that 181 were free from defect, whilst 336 presented definite defects, slight temporary variations from health being excluded ; 190 of the 336 defectives, or fifty-six per cent., presented what he regards as definite valvular affection of the heart, being about thirty-six per cent. of the necessitous children examined. In one school in the Isle of Dogs, forty-two of the sixty being fed presented heart affection, temporary hæmic murmurs being excluded from the reckoning. . . . The explanation of the frequency of heart disease given by Dr. Cardale is that a very large number of these children are neglected, poorly clothed, and badly shod ; that their homes are often draughty, cold and damp ; the children run the streets at all hours of the evening and night exposed to cold and wet, and frequently during bad weather they sit in their wet clothes and boots. Attacks of acute and subacute rheumatism are common, especially those insidious attacks, of the subacute variety, which are regarded as 'influenza colds,' and receive no treatment, but may leave valvular mischief."—*L.C.C. Ed. Co. M. O. Report*, 1911.

CRUELTY AND NEGLECT : " During the year ended 31st March, 1911, 744 cases were reported to the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children by the L.C.C., many for supervision and warning only, and the most flagrant for prosecution. 309 of these cases were relative to general neglect, fifty to failure to provide food, and 154 medical treatment ; eighteen had reference to assault, ill-treatment, or abandonment by parents. In thirty-nine cases the conditions were considered sufficiently serious to institute proceedings against the parents under section twelve of the Act, and these proceedings resulted, in twenty-six cases, in parents being imprisoned. In nine other cases, parents were either fined, or bound over in varying sums to come up for judgment

if called upon. The proceedings were withdrawn in the remaining four cases. As a result of the action taken by the National Society, and of the supervision of the children by the Council's care committees, a distinct improvement was reported in 256 cases (forty-three per cent.), slight improvement in 125 (twenty-one per cent.), and in 151 (twenty-five per cent.) no improvement was noticeable. In fifty-eight cases (ten per cent.) the home conditions were so bad that the children were removed to industrial schools, homes, or to the workhouse."—*L.C.C. Ed. Co. Report*, 1911.

The foregoing evidence discloses a condition of affairs in regard to children which is appalling. We celebrate "Empire Day" annually in our schools. The true patriot and the sane imperialist will endeavour, at all cost, to destroy the roots of such dire mischiefs as are thus shown to exist all over the country. Many causes have been hinted at by the various authorities, but there is no single cause, the evil influences at work are legion, some of them can only be grappled with and removed by Municipal or State action.

A vast proportion of the evil, however, is the result of vicious character and propensities, rickety and slipshod mental, moral and physical habits of the parents, brought about, in a large degree, by alcoholic indulgence and frequenting the public-house, the "fatal facilities" of which have been provided so copiously by a paternal legislature and a sapient magistracy.

I have too much respect for, and admiration of, our countrymen as a whole than to believe them capable, however poor they may be, of sending their little children to school in a ragged, starved, dirty and verminous condition. Poverty does not destroy a mother's love for her child, and unemployment does not transform a normal father into a callous brute. From the following evidence we shall see that the alcohol factor plays a large part in producing the deplorable conditions indicated, and its known psychological and physical effects explain that which otherwise is normally inexplicable.

THE FEEDING OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

VACATION SCHOOLS: "The children admitted to the Council's vacation schools were for the most part very poor. The Council of the Ragged School Union undertook to defray the cost of meals supplied to necessitous children, and about 1,400 children received meals at a total cost of £119 14s. 8d."—*L.C.C. Children's Care Committee Report*, 1911.

PARASITIC FATHERS: "In many cases, unfortunately, the father is a parasitic member of the family, taking the food out of the children's mouths. . . . One of the most potent causes of ill-nutrition is undoubtedly the necessity for mothers to leave home and go to work, the children practically never get a properly prepared meal.

"ILL-NUTRITION is most obvious in the youngest children at school and in slum districts. Frequently they seem the offspring of people who from inherent want of efficiency, mental or otherwise, have gone to the wall. These most often present evidences of mental slackness, and with this is associated, in great measure,

alcoholism and its associated evils, want of regular employment and poor housing. The married women also have to work and infants are artificially fed.”—*L.C.C. Sub-Committee on Feeding Report*, 1905.

UNSKILLED WORKERS : “ In a school in the North of London, in a poor district where most of the men are unskilled workers out of employment, nearly every child needs feeding during the winter months ; the children of widows, as has been noted before, are better than the others. Intemperance is difficult to assess, but it is common to find that beer is fetched twice a day. Medically speaking, inspection (of the children) is of little benefit, as the parents are of the class who pay no attention to messages from the school.”—*L.C.C. Ed. Co. M. O. Report*, 1908.

MATERNAL NEGLECT : “ Children who are *ill-fed*, *ill-clad* and dirty come almost invariably from homes where the mother drinks in a greater or a lesser degree. If only the father drinks, the mother generally makes heroic attempts to keep the children clean, even if very poor, and will wonderfully contrive to remake old garments over again to suit her children’s need. Where the mother drinks, however much money is coming into the home, household duties are neglected and food is sent for from cook or fried-fish shops in penny or twopenny worths. A sober mother has every nerve alert ready to concoct something out of a very little—a good dinner for four at a cost of threepence or fourpence (vegetable soup made of strong stock from one pennyworth of bones). The woman who drinks gradually gets careless, indifferent to her duties, too indolent to prepare meals for her husband and children.

THE CHILDREN ACT : “ Conditions have improved since the passing of the Act, in so much as now both parents do not drink in public-houses in presence of their children, but the drink is consumed at home if children are small. ‘ The finest Law ever passed,’ said a poor but respectable woman living in a slum. ‘ The most shameful Law ever passed,’ said one who loved her drink, ‘ interfering with our liberty.’ ”—*Sister Edith Banbury, Nottingham*.

A CANTEEN COMMITTEE : “ We have a Committee for controlling voluntary feeding of needy children, of which I have been a member and frequently requested to take such cases in hand. The modern reformers all wish this matter to be dealt with out of the rates. It is a rare thing for children to require feeding unless one or both parents drink. Our inquiries often caused bother in the home, because the husband told his wife his earnings were so much, and on verifying this at his employers’ she ascertained the truth. The difference in every case enabled the man to drink or gamble that much more. Many of the women followed the fashion. One woman’s children were fed, and the others felt why should they bother to get a meal ready for theirs ? So the number increased of those whom we ought to have prosecuted. Undoubtedly the children all round were the better for the wholesome food provided them. The difference between temperate and intemperate drinkers opens up a wide discussion on meaning of words.”—*W. E. Moss, Lees Hall, Blackburn*.

FAMILY RECORDS of twenty-five cases of neglected children were noted and sent in by a School Attendance Officer and a Poor Law Guardian from a small town in Kent (1913). Seventy-one children were included in the report, and "verminous, very neglected, filthy, no stamina, half-starved" are their various descriptions. In twenty-one cases Drink was reported, and in four others laziness, as the cause of the children having to be fed. In nine cases the father drank, in five cases the mother, and in seven both parents; in one case the father was "quite a scholar"; a mother "had sold the children's boots for drink"; in two cases the N.S.P.C.C. had intervened, while in one the father had been in prison for theft.

THE HEADMASTERS of Elementary Schools in the places indicated made the undermentioned replies to the following questions, viz. :—1. What proportion of children come to school hungry during winter months? 2. What are the causes of such conditions? 3. What proportion are hungry through drinking habits of one or both parents, (a) directly, (b) indirectly? (Cases of "father out of work" *through drink* to be differentiated.)

REPLIES.

LONDON, S.E. : 1. A very small proportion. A great deal depends on the manner of dealing with the cases as they arise, for the irresponsible manner in which many of the homes are conducted makes regular provision of wholesome food almost an impossibility even where means exist. 2. (a) Drink, (b) Laziness, (c) Lack of knowledge of household management. 3. (a) Ten per cent. of the whole school get less and inferior food than they would if the parents did not drink; (b) Ten per cent. or less.

LONDON, S.W. : 1. We feed a very small proportion, even in the worst parts. It greatly depends how you treat the cases that crop up. If you send the child home to get his breakfast, he will probably get it and not be sent without it again. At the same time you must know something of the family history before you can be sure that you are not doing an injustice to the boy. 2. (a) Drink, (b) Laziness, (c) Lack of knowledge of household management. 3. (a) Perhaps ten per cent. do not get such good food as they would do if the parents did not drink.

CHISWICK : 1. About 3 per cent. 2. (a) Drink, (b) Women out at work, (c) Laziness. 3. Practically the whole of the underfeeding is due to drink.

CHELSEA : 1. About 4 per cent. 2. (a) Drink, (b) General neglect. 3. (a) Sixty per cent., (b) Forty per cent.

BASINGSTOKE : 1. Very small, about two per cent. No lack of work in district. 2. (a) Drink, (b) Lack of thrift. 3. All of it—mothers as bad as fathers. The drinking is both cause and result of laziness.

BOSTON : 1. About four per cent. (very rough estimate). 2. "The general English social evils, drink and gambling with lack of industry."

RICHMOND : 1. Very small (Education Committee defeated a resolution *re* feeding on this ground by large majority). 2. The number of boys who learn no trade or profession, but are made

errand boys, newspaper boys, golf caddies, etc., and ultimately become casual labourers. 3. (a) Drink, (b) The numbers are about equal.

FARNHAM: 1. Very small, two per cent. 2. (a) Drink, (b) Improvidence. 3. (a) Ninety per cent., (b) Five per cent.

THE REPORTS by Head Teachers of six schools show, in regard to children at the respective schools, there are:—(a) Underfed or illfed, 3%, under $\frac{1}{2}$ %, 1%, 2%, 1%, 2%, wrongly fed, 6%; (b) Illclad, 10%, 4%, 5%, 4%, 4%, 6%; and (c) Dirty or Verminous, 1%, rare 1%, 5%, 4%, 3%. No information could be given as to what proportion of parents of such children were abstainers; in two schools the proportions of temperate and intemperate drinkers respectively were given as sixty per cent. and ten per cent., and sixty per cent. and forty per cent.

THE CHILDREN ACT: In reply to the question whether conditions had improved since the application of the Act, the same six teachers replied yes, and in regard to what particular, and to what extent, gave unanimously: More attention to cleanliness, general health, and better feeding as the results.

THE HABITS AND CHARACTER of parents of children earning money in the streets while under sixteen years of age are given by three head-teachers, as follows—(a) seventy per cent. hardworking, twenty per cent. thriftless, ten per cent. intemperate; (b) Eight fatherless, four or five badly off, but most in fair to good circumstances; (c) Seventy-five per cent. hardworking and boy wishes to earn, twenty-five per cent. thriftless and intemperate.

RECOGNITION OF DRINK FACTOR:—"I think it is possibly due to the fact that by the Children's Court we have penetrated more homes and there unveiled the skeleton of drunkenness which has hitherto escaped notice, or has been glossed over by vague descriptions of something wrong with the family."—*Mr. Cecil Chapman, Metrop. Police Court Magistrate, 1912.*

INFIRMARY EVIDENCE: "Many of the children of drunken parents who come into the Infirmary are admitted on account of malnutrition and of diseases due to injury or neglect. In most cases the diseases are not the result of any weakness directly inherited from the parents as the result of their drunken habits, but are the consequences of the poverty, the lack of proper food and care and actual physical ill-treatment, which results from the parents' inebriety. When both parents drink the infant is handicapped from the day of its birth by the fact that the mother is unable to feed it naturally, or, if she does, the drinking habits prevent her from feeding it regularly or impoverish her milk so that the child does not obtain the nourishment necessary for its growth. Such children suffer much from diarrhœa and dyspeptic conditions, are wasted and stunted in growth, and their constitution is so enfeebled that they fall an easy prey to the ordinary infectious diseases of childhood. In such cases these diseases are apt to assume a much more serious aspect than in normally developed children and the death-rate is distinctly higher.

CASE RECORDS: "The following are a few examples of the children of drunken patients who have been in the Infirmary recently:

Family D. Three of the children have been in the Infirmary on several occasions. Both parents are habitual drunkards. One child was brought suffering from whooping cough. It was extremely ill, and very nearly died. It has been in the Infirmary twice since, once for diarrhœa, the result of improper feeding, and once for a skin disease, the result of dirt and vermin. A sister was admitted suffering from whooping cough, with inflamed eyes aggravated by neglect. This child showed very little resisting power and died from the whooping cough. Another sister was admitted in a dirty and verminous condition suffering from pneumonia, from which it made a good recovery.

Family W. Five of these children were constantly in and out of the Infirmary. Both parents were habitual drunkards. Two of them suffered from inflamed eyes aggravated by neglect, one from a skin disease, one from diarrhœa and whooping cough, and one from diarrhœa. Two of them died, one from whooping cough and one from wasting. All these children were badly nourished, dirty and neglected, and most of the illnesses from which they suffered were the direct result of parental neglect, due to alcohol.

Family T. Three of these children were also constantly in and out of the Infirmary. The father was a hard drinker, the mother a moderate drinker. They were debilitated children whose constitutions had been undermined by neglect, dirt and improper feeding. Even when taken from the parents and placed under hygienic conditions they never completely regained the ground they had lost, and they will probably remain weakly throughout their lives.

Family H. Three children in the Infirmary—all weakly. One showed signs of early phthisis, another suffered from a skin disease the result of dirt. Father an habitual drunkard, the mother also drinks to excess.

Family W. (2.) Two children in the Infirmary—one suffered from a discharge, the result of neglect, but was fairly healthy. The other was a very small wasted baby, which lingered for some time and died from malnutrition. Both parents were habitual drunkards.

Family V. Four children in Infirmary—all poorly developed and nourished. One suffered from diarrhœa as the result of careless feeding, another from skin disease, the result of dirt, in such an advanced state owing to neglect that the child was left badly scarred, another from measles which ran a very severe course, owing to the child's debilitated condition, and the fourth from wasting, the direct result of improper feeding and neglect. Both parents habitual drunkards—frequently convicted for drunkenness and neglect of their children."—*Dr. C. Thackray Parsons, Medical Superintendent Fulham Infirmary, May, 1913.*

CAUSATION OF DISEASE.—Dr. Badger, of Wolverhampton, endeavoured to estimate the main factor in causation in 131 of the cases of disease among school children, and the following table expresses the opinion formed :—

(1) Influence or reaction of disease	...	...	...	49
(2) Strong evidence of neglect, dirt, or drink as cause...				26
(3) Defective feeding due to ignorance or poverty	...			25
(4) Overwork and insufficient sleep	...	...	...	11
(5) Various	...	...	...	20

It would be interesting if the causes of the disease, poverty, overwork and insufficient sleep noted in these cases could have been traced.

THE HABITS OF PARENTS AND THEIR INFLUENCE UPON THEIR CHILDREN.

1. "Parents as a rule are careless and quite indifferent to the bad habits being formed by the children, and in many cases are only anxious to get them out of the way. This despite the fact that some of these parents are only moderate drinkers. . . . These parents are often utterly weak. They have no control over the children, who are allowed to run the streets. In many cases they learn to steal. Very often the sleeping accommodation is far too limited, and cases of immorality are occasioned thereby."—*Lady Commissioner of Salvation Army*.

2. "In the area where I am constantly working I find that the child, owing to the slums and the poverty of parents, is in the poorer districts increasing in numbers in respect to bad mental and physical conditions. Our Physically Defective and Mentally Defective Schools are more than full.

3. "Drink, especially among women, seems to be on the increase, and usually accounts for the unhappy bodily state of the child, especially in respect to bad boots and verminous bodies. No lasting improvement has yet been noticed in a very poor school since feeding the children. At present the drunken parents are having too much done for them."—*Lady Visitor at Clapton*.

This lady's opinion is apparently not indorsed by a well-known Poor Law Guardian of Oxford, who states :—

4. "I have no doubt the Act for feeding hungry children has done good—when the children are fed ; but there seems to be in many places great reluctance to put it into operation for fear of 'demoralizing' the poor. I think it is far more demoralizing to the Nation, as a whole, to permit children to be half-starved amid abundance of riches. The Scotch Guardians often give dinner tickets to children."—*Theodore Dodd, M.A., J.P.*

5. "The habits of some children when brought into school are rough, and show that they have had little home training. Some look cowed and frightened, and appear to have a great fear of being beaten when first brought in. Others, especially amongst the younger ones, have a silly, half-drunken expression. A keen sense of humour is lacking in a good many cases. Some are naturally

quiet and refined in their ways and speech, showing that they have had good home training. Such children are thus reduced either through a misfortune or the death of one or both parents. In several cases the father has deserted his wife and children. The mother then goes to work, sometimes into domestic service. When the parents are known to be of a bad character the children are adopted by the Guardians and they are not allowed to have any communication with them. These children, if they so desire, may emigrate to Canada when old enough. If they stay in England, they are under the Guardians' care until they are eighteen years of age."—*Lady Visitor to Poor Law School (Middlesex)*.

6. " (The lowest class which Booth puts in class 'A.') The term 'efficiency' is necessarily a relative one; and in dealing with the evidence I have collected, I have considered in every instance not only the record of the child as it grew to manhood or womanhood, but also the records of the parents. 'Inefficiency' is also a relative term; but, looked at in the light of these parental records, it is in almost every case synonymous with vagrancy, with dissolute living, with drunkenness, and with crime. There are, of course, isolated instances where the record has been one of accumulated misfortune rather than of inefficiency, but these are so rare as to be swamped in the general whole."—*Environment and Efficiency (Birmingham Studies in Social Economics)*, by Mary Horner Thomson.

7. "Of 1,202 children boarded out by Glasgow Parish Council, drink, or drunkenness and immorality, or drunkenness and crime, caused 906 cases.—p. 57. Of another group of fifteen cases of children boarded out by Glasgow Parish Council drink figures as the cause of nine cases.—pp. 58, 62. Of another group of sixteen boys and girls who had been rescued from their surroundings and sent to Homes in Canada, drink, or drink and vice caused thirteen of the cases.—pp. 20-24."—*History of Causation of child suffering and neglect investigated and tabulated*.

8. "At one time Dr. Barnardo estimated that the destitute condition of fully eighty per cent. of the children received into these Homes was due, either directly or indirectly, to intemperance. A few years ago I instituted a fresh investigation, we found that the percentage had dropped to about thirty per cent. This fact is most encouraging."—*Mr. W. Baker, LL.B., Hon. Director Dr. Barnardo's Homes*.

This is very gratifying, although one cannot accurately gauge the difference in the percentage unless the method of inquiry in each case was identical.

DRINK, CRUELTY AND NEGLECT.

1. "Since the establishment of the Society, 675,871 cases of cruelty to children have been reported. The little victims of neglect and ill-treatment numbered 1,860,859. It is not an exaggerated estimate that ninety per cent. of the cases of neglect enquired into by the Society's officers are due to the habits of excessive drinking on the part of one or both of the parents.

2. "It is a significant and striking fact, made evident by the careful inquiry of the Society's Inspectors, that the growth of the drink habit in a parent is marked by a corresponding decline of proper parental instinct ; ordinarily kind-hearted people become callous ; habits of decency are forgotten, and cruelty sits in the place of love on the domestic hearth.

3. "Incredible as it may appear to those in whom the love of children is inbred as one of Nature's best gifts, the development of the selfish indulgence of drinking is accompanied by a growing indifference to the commonest needs of even the smallest children.

4. "The idea prevalent in some circles that neglect of and cruelty to children is mainly due to the poverty of parents is not borne out by facts. Inability to provide the necessaries of life does not kill affection as the habit of drinking does, and though it is true that here and there children suffer through their parents' lack of means, such parents often go without the things they themselves need in order to supply the requirements of their little ones.

5. "It would be impossible to attempt to describe the conditions of things where children are neglected through drink. Think, if you will, of men and women who are so lost to the sense of true parenthood that their homes are of indescribable filth, their children are puny, emaciated little things, scarcely human, rarely washed, improperly fed, miserable units floating on the sea of humanity, early entrants on the lists of infantile mortality tables. Or, if they do not get that last stroke of fortune—you will be astonished, perhaps, that I say fortune—then they step out quite unprepared into a world unwilling to receive them, to take their places in the ranks of the feeble-minded, the blind, the criminal, or the mentally diseased.

6. "Here are two illustrations of neglect :—

"*Case 1.*—B. is a woman with a thirteen-months-old baby, whose wasted limbs and insufficient clothing speak of cruel neglect. There is no food or fire in the room. Bed is saturated. Given ticket to get milk ; the woman tore it up and said the child should starve. All her money is spent in drink, and when drunk she is like a lunatic. This woman has been drinking for five years, and has spent three years in an Inebriate Reformatory.

"*Case 2.*—G. is a labourer, aged thirty-eight ; his wife, aged thirty-seven. There are five children. The woman was continuously drunk. The only furniture downstairs is a table and a box. The bedding is rotten and sodden ; the children filthy and verminous. In the street, as late as eleven at night, was a boy, drenched to the skin, hawking papers. A girl suffered from ophthalmia. The mother has been drinking for six years.

7. "Here is an example of Active Cruelty :—Y., a man of thirty, entered his house to sleep off the effects of a debauch. He had one little girl, and she unintentionally aroused him. She was unmercifully beaten with a stick on her back and arms, and when she screamed her father took a knife and threatened her. Falling to the ground, the child was unprotected and the father jumped on her. The doctor who afterwards examined her said there was not

an inch of her body free from the bruises caused by this drunken man. Let us take another typical illustration. An inquest held on a girl of seven years shows that she died from burns received while with a woman of drunken habits. This woman had been the mother of twenty children, fifteen of whom had died."—*Robert J. Parr, Director of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.*

8. Dr. Tredgold, giving evidence before the Royal Commission on the Feeble-Minded, says : " These three forms of marked heredity, viz., nervous abnormality, alcoholism and consumption, are the chief factors in the causation of mental defect " (Evidence, Vol. I., page 397). Dr. Tredgold is physician to the Littleton Home for Defective Children, and investigated with the utmost care the family history in 150 cases of mental defect. He found that in forty-six and half per cent. of these—in nearly half—there was very strongly marked alcoholism in the family, in most cases combined with " neuropathic inheritance." In the London schools for feeble-minded there were traces of a history of parental drunkenness of forty-two per cent., in Birmingham, of forty-one per cent., in 1907.

9. " The atmosphere of filth in which some children live is disgusting to a degree, and is due to mothers spending in drink what they ought to spend in soap."—*Mr. Paul Taylor, at Marylebone ; Daily News, Aug., 1912.*

10. " Something should be done to prevent the children being left outside the public-houses while their parents are drinking within. In the East End of London, Monday especially, is the day when most of this crying evil is to be seen. The family earnings have not yet been spent, and Monday is often a sort of holiday amongst this class of people, the children not only getting a love for the public-house by the light, and, to them, tempting brightness, but in the cold weather they are very liable to get harm from being ill-clad and underfed."—*Lady Commissioner, Salvation Army.*

THE EVILS OF STREET TRADING BY BOYS AND GIRLS AND THE CAUSES FORCING CHILDREN INTO THE STREETS.

A Departmental Committee to inquire into the working of the Street Trading Act, 1903, was appointed by the Government in 1909, and the following excerpts are from the voluminous evidence taken, and published in the Blue Book.

" 1604. There are the children of drunken and idle and criminal parents, who are compelled to provide for themselves because their parents do not provide for them. There are the crippled children who cannot work at all. There are the unemployable children, the degenerates, with no physical strength or capacity for work. There are the orphans, and those whose parents have deserted them. That is the class of children which I should call the compulsory class."—*Rev. S. P. H. Statham, Chaplain, Parkhurst Convict Prison.*

"2026. I think I have heard worse language by young girls than I have heard from most men. Unfortunately this is the worst part of the town. You will find these same little girls of fourteen to seventeen years of age behaving there at night in a very improper manner indeed. Nine of these girls are practically girl prostitutes of the lowest class. I have not picked them out as being of the worst class, because they are simply all bad. I do not think it would be possible for the girls to be innocent in that part of the town, and engaged in such a trade. By allowing them to remain you are simply manufacturing girls of this type.

"2037. Apparently No. 2 is a girl of fourteen years of age, and she, too, has left school?—Yes. In that case both the parents drink heavily and the father never does any more work than selling a few flowers. 2040. In the case of No. 2 there is no pressure causing the girl to go into the street?—No. I think there is quite two pounds a week coming into the family, and they have not more than two or three pieces of furniture in the house. They sleep on the floor or where they can."—*Miss O. Hargreaves, Sheffield.*

"2974. In the centre of the city they come from worse homes, and in many cases the parents benefit from the earnings. 2976. What would be the occupation of the father?—He might be a porter, or something like that; and in many cases he does not work at all, but simply picks up what he can. 2977. In those cases would the earnings of the child be often necessary for the support of the family?—Well, of course, they would in a way, as they think. Very often parents are very drunken parents. 2978. Are there two classes of cases, the first in which the parent is a drunkard and sends out his children to earn money, and the other where the child has to go on the streets in order to keep the family going?—Yes. I should say that in a great many cases in the centre of the city the money does not go to the best purposes, although the parents get it, because they are generally drunken and do not take much interest in their children."—*Mr. Robert Peacock, Chief Constable of Manchester.*

"4287. Did your inspector inquire into individual cases? He made full inquiry into the home life of each boy. No. 1 was a boy aged eleven years, and the son of a fish hawker, who was earning a considerable income, but who was of drunken habits; No. 2 was a boy aged twelve years, and the son of a drunken mason; No. 3 was a boy of thirteen, and who was the son of a cabman, whose wife kept lodgers, and between them they made a good income, but both were addicted to drink; No. 4 was a boy aged twelve years, and the son of an engineer, also in receipt of good wages; No. 5 was a boy eleven years of age and the son of a master coach-builder, who, with his wife, were both addicted to drink; No. 6 was a boy aged twelve years, and was of a family of six who were all illegitimate, and the mother was frequently warned for neglect; No. 7 was a boy aged twelve years, and was the son of a mason in receipt of good wages, and several members of his family were working, but the father was drunken; Nos. 8 and 9 were aged twelve and ten respectively, and were sons of a miner in receipt of good wages, but of drunken habits, and he had been convicted and



imprisoned for child neglect."—*Mr. Ninian Hill, Secretary, Scottish N.S.P.C.C.*

"4384. Boys are often compelled to go on to the streets by their parents, in most cases because the parents are lazy or drunken in their habits. I have known cases where boys have been told by their parents that they must earn a certain sum, failing which they would be punished."—*Mr. W. A. Wallace, founder of the Newsboys' League.*

"4782. I am quite convinced that it is always through drink or vice that they (the parents) send the children. They want to make money out of them. I know it seems a very harsh thing to say."—*Mr. R. L. Bremner, Chairman, Parliamentary Bills Committee of Scottish Council for Women's Trades, Glasgow.*

"4724. Are there not cases where to abolish street trading by children would be a hardship on the really deserving parent?—Well, we maintain that it would not be so. I was talking to a newsboy the other day who had done very well. I asked him what it was that led him to the street at all. He said: 'My father was a heavy drinker, and my mother took a dram.' I said: 'Is that the general state of things?' He said: 'All the boys I used to go with were on the streets because their parents drank.' I said: 'It is often said that it would be a hardship to widows.' He said that he only knew of one widow whose son traded in the streets, and she took a dram. That newsboy is now a man, and a cripple; he is a married man with a family. He has kept his wife and a family on the proceeds from street trading, and that is his reason for being in the streets. This boy only knew of the one case I have instanced of the widow needing earnings from the streets, and even there the widow misconducted herself. 4725. What sort of homes do these street-trading boys come from?—They come from the lowest homes in the city, and there is no question about it."—*Mr. R. L. Bremner, Scottish Council for Women's Trades.*

"4817. Then there were twelve of the children fatherless, and five of the children motherless?—Yes. 4818. In several cases was the widowed mother in receipt of out-door parochial relief, which was being squandered on drink, and the children sent out to sell or beg?—Yes. 4819. In sixteen cases were the fathers known to the inspectors as notorious drunkards, and the earnings of the children were being seized by them and similarly squandered? Yes. 4820. In the majority of the other cases did the appearance of the home and parents point to a similar abuse of the children's earnings?—Yes. 4821. Were the parents in a few cases out of employment and did they admit having sent the children out for the family maintenance?—Yes. 4822. Do you say that a deplorable feature of the case was the discovery that in not a few cases there was a weekly income of 25s., 30s., and over 40s., and the children were out selling?—That is so."—*Mr. William McCrindle, Secretary of the Glasgow Branch of the Scottish N.S.P.C.C.*

"5262. Do you feel that the habit of street trading tends to encourage habits of indolence among the parents?—Yes. I do not know of instances myself, but I have heard frequently—and it is common knowledge too—that the vicious parents send these poor

little boys and girls out to trade on the streets, and their earnings are often spent in drink. The child is afraid to go home without having earned something. There is no doubt that that does exist."—*Mr. H. McCarthy, Secretary, School Attendance Committee of Dublin, and Chief School Attendance Officer.*

"6,603. Did you generally find that the parents were drunken?—Yes. I give you that information in one of the columns in that document. 6,604. You appear to have found that in eight cases out of the twenty cases that the parents were drunken, and then in a number of other cases you use the term 'bad?'—Yes, which includes drunken and immoral surroundings. 6,605. Does it come to this, that in a great majority of these cases the parents were bad?—Yes, undoubtedly.

"6,622. Have you any other report?—Yes. The inspector in this case says: 'I beg to report that at 10.45 on Saturday night, the 4th inst., I found a child named G.C., aged twelve years, selling newspapers in Bridge End. He is licensed, but was not wearing his badge. The child was very badly clad. He was shivering with cold, and presented a miserable appearance. He had boots on. The night was dry, but bitterly cold. The mother is dead. The father is a seafaring man, stated to be seldom at home. He sends home about twenty-three shillings a week towards the children's support. The children are in charge of their grandmother. It is said that she drinks, and spends some of the earnings on drink. A lodger, who is an uncle of the children, gives ten shillings a week into the house. I visited the house, and found four other children there, ranging in age from six to fifteen years. The house and surroundings presented a squalid appearance. The grandmother bears the name of a wicked, drunken woman.'

"6,623. The third report by the same inspector is as follows: 'I beg to report that at 10.45 on Saturday night, 6th inst., I found a child named R.M., aged thirteen years, selling newspapers in Bridge End. He was licensed and was wearing his badge. The child was very badly clad, but had boots on. He was shivering with cold, and presented a miserable appearance. The night was dry, but very cold. The father is a rigger, stated to be in constant employment, making thirty shillings a week. One of the children is employed in the rope works at nine shillings a week. I visited their home and found that they had nine children altogether. All the children were ragged and neglected-looking. The house and surroundings presented a squalid appearance. It is stated that both parents drink, and that most of the earnings are spent on drink.'—*Mr. William Rodden, Executive Officer for Ireland, N.S.P.C.C.*

This evidence conclusively proves the indictment brought against alcohol by the Temperance Reformer, and shows drinking to be the most serious factor in producing the deplorable condition of many thousands of helpless and innocent children. The only other point I desire to emphasize is that the larger part of child-suffering is caused not through poverty or lack of means on the part of the parents, but through a wrongful and mischievous use of means, which if properly spent, would produce comfort and health. There are other proofs of the same condition of things in regard to some other phases of the evil.

SECTION II: ADOLESCENTS.

THE State loses a great part of the value of its educational expenditure by reason of the falling back after school age.

There is then a lack of control and discipline, the young people, many of whom have no good home influences, drift into idle and loafing habits, sometimes into crime and vice, learn to drink, gamble, and to use bad language, thus there is a fearful waste of good human material. The years during which character in the main is built up for weal or woe are those from fourteen to twenty. Young people of these ages need to be helped, in the way of Clubs, Classes and Recreative Institutes, and Continuation Schools for those up to eighteen years of age, such efforts will largely help to prevent the evils so prevalent among adolescents. The following evidence needs no comment :—

1. “ Nothing is more evident from all the records and lives of individuals that come under our notice than the fact that once a life of crime is entered upon reformation becomes exceedingly difficult. Too much importance cannot be laid upon what befalls a boy or girl immediately after leaving school, at about fourteen years of age. This period is the most critical in the life of young persons.

2. “ At an age when the children of those who are better off are still carefully guarded and watched over at home and at school, the children of poorer parents are largely emancipated from parental control. They have to work for themselves, and begin too often to feel that they may spend their time and earnings as they please, with the result that boys often begin to live in common lodging-houses and to hang about street corners and railway stations, so earning an uncertain but often fairly large amount with a minimum of exertion and trouble. These boys are fast qualifying for a career of crime.

3. “ The Commissioners welcome the proposal to restrict street trading by juveniles. They believe that if boys who have apparently no proper means of obtaining a living were liable to be sent, not for punishment, but for training and technical instruction, to an Institution for the purpose, boys would themselves find regular work, or would remain in the situations found for them by parents and others much more regularly than they now do, and would not be so easily tempted, as they now are to leave their situations to take up street trading or other casual employment in its place.”—*Report of Scottish Prison Commissioners, 1911.*

4. “ Possibly upwards of fifty per cent. of these employed children are engaged in ‘ unskilled ’ work, and that nearly all of the children employed out of school hours are so occupied. The variety of occupations is, of course, very great, but this is of minor importance compared with the fact that we have, on the one hand, for both boys and girls, an extensive development of more or less casual employment of an uneducative character, yielding relatively high wages, but having no safeguards and providing no training for future proficiency ; on the other hand, we have not only a decline,

amounting almost to disappearance, of the apprenticeship system, but a shrinkage of the occupations in which boys may, under appropriate supervision, be trained physically and mentally to become competent workers.

5. "A large number of typical returns, both for counties and towns, for 1911, indicate, however, that it may be said that from thirty to forty per cent. of the leaving girls suffer from unclean heads (*pediculosis capitis*), about ten per cent. of all leaving boys and girls have a serious defect in vision, not less than one per cent. have tuberculosis recognizable by clinical methods, about forty per cent. suffer from extensive and injurious decay of the teeth (speaking generally only twenty per cent. have sound teeth), about three per cent. are returned as deaf, and from one to two per cent. suffer from some form of heart disease.

6. "Recent inquiries have furnished abundant evidence of the fact that numbers of children employed for the first time after leaving school break down physically from heart trouble, tuberculosis, nervous conditions, and general debility. Many others are handicapped by defective vision, or are debarred from employment by being undersized or lacking in general strength. Deafness, mental dulness or deficiency, stammering and lameness are frequent causes of rejection or early dismissal; and to this already formidable category must be added uncleanliness, slovenliness, and general 'sloppiness.'

7. "It is estimated that some 450,000 children annually pass out of the State schools at or about the age of fourteen. The number of children who pass out every year as possessors of a labour certificate is upwards of 211,000; the number of 'half-timers' is estimated at any one time to be about 35,000; and the number of school children employed out of school hours is probably not less than 200,000."—*Rep. of Chief Medical Officer of Board of Education, 1911.*

8. "A return prepared by the London County Council showed that for the children who left school during the educational year 1906-7, 67·9 per cent. of the boys, and 38·7 per cent. of the girls were occupied in 'unskilled' employment. A similar return for the following year (1907-8) gave 61·0 per cent. and 34·1 respectively. In this return, which deals only with the first form of occupation and not the ultimate employment, there does not seem to have been any uniformity in determining whether an occupation was skilled or unskilled."—*Minutes of the L.C.C. proceedings, November, 1909, pp. 912-26.*

9. Dr. Cooper Pattin, of Norwich, reports that 662 boys leaving school the percentage passing to skilled employment was twenty-nine from "better class" schools, twenty-one from "mixed class" schools, and eleven from "poorer class" schools.

10. "We have considerably more drinking among youths and maidens than formerly, especially among the latter. There is so little discipline in the homes, the girls are out in the streets of a night much oftener and later. Mending, patching, knitting has diminished, and there is less 'modesty.'"—*Rep. of Commissioner of Salvation Army.*

11. "The general opinion of those well qualified to judge is that in the factories and warehouses of Nottingham there is to-day a far higher tone than existed thirty or forty years ago. The overlookers are, as a rule, exercising a more salutary influence upon the girls in the rooms over which they have control. The overlookers are of a superior type to a past generation and will not tolerate the moral laxity of former days. For the sake of her position a girl has to be more careful of her conduct. A large proportion also are connected with Bible Classes or have only just ceased to attend them, so that is a restraining factor.

12. "The open drinking for lunch and dinner, formerly common, is not allowed in many factories. Despite the utmost vigilance of the overlookers it still comes in, but in less quantities. It is an illicit practice in most factories except for birthday or wedding celebrations. These celebrations are permitted, but lead to mischief in many cases, for thus a love of alcohol is contracted. Few girls refuse to take part in these birthday parties, so few are total abstainers.

13. "On holidays—such as visit of a football team—crowds of young girls go into public-houses to drink with their friends. Apparently many are visitors, but our Nottingham girls thus get familiar with the inside of a public-house.

14. "The morality and sobriety of our girls are certainly better and compare, I should say, favourably with, say, the Potteries. I do not know one girl who is an abstainer who gives me anxiety on the score of her morals. The Christian teetotal girls are an elevating influence in our warehouses and factories, and are not afraid to let their convictions be known. They, too, are the girls who earn most money, because the overlooker knows they can be relied on.

15. "Amongst girls in Nottingham there is little 'Blind Alley' employment. Girls go into the factories first as errand girls and then are drafted on according to suitability to become machinists, finishers or hosiery workers. They can and do earn more money than youths of their age—oftentimes as much again."—*Miss Edith Banbury, Nottingham.*

16. "Factory life is most disastrous for the girls, inasmuch as they get linked up with boys with whom they attend music halls and other places, and the free life, bereft of any restraint, leads often to evil results. The want of morality is not, however, due to the factory; the girls are as pure there as in the shops. Although the caste system prevails and the factory girl is looked down upon. Occasionally a foreman gets too free, and it leads to undue intimacy, but it is not general. I speak from inside knowledge here.

17. "There is less drinking in our local mills. Footings are not so prevalent and managers will not allow drink to be brought inside the gates. I have seen a lot of this in years gone by, but there is little of it to-day. I have not noticed that any particular kind of employment has any effect on drinking except this: I should say the card-room women in a mill drink more than weavers. I don't want to infer or say that card-room workers are of a lower

type, but still a larger proportion are Irish and Roman Catholics, and the priests, generally speaking, seem asleep on the liquor question. So they do not give their flock much admonition. The Redemptionist Fathers come once a year to conduct Missions, and these Priests are usually red-hot on the drink evil—but the others? —*W. E. Moss, Lees Hall, Blackburn.*

18. Miss Garnett, from a women's settlement in the Potteries: "I think drink among girls is due to the drink clubs. They are called 'footings' in some places, but in the Potteries I think they are called 'drink clubs.' They are in almost every workshop. They are supposed to contribute something. Then they have a sort of jollification. I think that is how the young girls learn to drink." She adds "that amongst girls employed in factories there is a great deal of secret drinking. During the last year I have seen young girls of sixteen or seventeen drunk at midday in the streets in the dinner hour."—*Evid. before Committee on Physical Deterioration, 1904.*

19. "In York there is much public-house drinking by girls. This does not often lead to actual drunkenness, but unfortunately there can be no doubt that many girls spend their evenings in public-houses with a view to meeting men for immoral purposes. The police inform me that there are not more than a score or so of women in York who depend upon prostitution as a sole means of livelihood, but there is, nevertheless, much immorality in the city." —*J. Seebohm Rowntree, "Poverty," p. 313.*

20. "Drinking healths and other drinking customs and the example of others are often great temptations to adolescents and young men. It would be an immense gain if Clergy and other Ministers and all teachers were to become total abstainers; and health drinking in intoxicants should be given up in Universities and at Colleges for training the Ministry. Drink should not be associated with festivities, or festivities with drink."—*Theodore Dodd, M.A., P.L.G., Oxford.*

Three Headmasters of London County Council Schools state that an average of thirty per cent. of boys leaving school go into what are known as "Blind Alley" occupations. Investigation into the family history, or case-paper, of such lads discloses factors in this condition of things which are more or less owing to drink. Want of application and intelligence due to inherent effects of parental alcoholism and home environment frequently render the lads incapable of consecutive and skilled work. Then, again, the lack of money in the home consequent upon the drinking of one parent or both, or upon the mother being a widow or worse, compels the lad to look out for immediate resources rather than future prospects. So the vicious circle of inefficiency is perpetuated, unless these lads profit, as happily they often do, from their own experience.

SECTION III: ADULTS.

THE WAGES, HABITS AND STANDARD OF LIFE OF
VARIOUS CLASSES OF WORKERS.

“**T**HERE are one million men in Great Britain who are paid less wages than twenty shillings per week; two million and one-third twenty shillings and less than twenty-five shillings; and two million twenty-five to thirty shillings, making over five and a quarter millions of men who are receiving less than thirty shillings per week.”—*Seebohm Rowntree, Alfreton, Derby, June 27th, 1912.*

“Of those employed in the Textile Trades 99,800 men and 177,700 women; in Clothing, 44,500 men and 183,000 women; in Metal and Engineering, 100,000 men and 8,000 women; and on Railways, 101,000 men; all the men earn less than twenty-one shillings per week, and all the women less than twelve shillings per week.”—*Henry Willmot in "The Crusader," June, 1912, p. 96.*

If these figures are accurate, they show that there is a large proportion of workers earning low wages, and who are therefore living in poverty, a poverty which is due, not to drinking, but to economic causes. But in many cases part even of these slender means is wasted on alcohol, making that which is bad worse. The economic evils and conditions, indicated by these low wages, would have a speedy termination at the hands of a sober and thoughtful democracy.

NOTTINGHAM WORKERS.

1. “Few women—except the overlookers and pattern-makers—earn here over twenty-five shillings a week on an average. Few reach that sum now in the busiest time and there are many short weeks in a year. That is, weeks when there are few orders for work in, and the girls and women have to sit waiting. These idle times are hours of danger, for a woman of an immoral nature can and will taint a whole room of women and arouse morbid curiosity in the girls.

2. “The standard of living is comfortable if the parents are sober, if not, often an unmarried daughter’s earnings are all absorbed by the home need. Girls whom I know, earning a pound a week, will have to give up the whole of their money because of the drinking habits of parents, and earn money for clothes for themselves by doing work at home at night. The Nottingham girls and women dress remarkably well, in the majority of cases making their own clothes.

3. “Generally the standard of living amongst working classes of the higher paid trades—joiners, smiths, machinists, twist hands, etc., when abstainers, is good. There is often much comfort in their well-furnished home of four, five or six rooms. The food will be good and the life happy. A similar home, if one or both drinks,

will be cheerless, poor and dirty. It is generally possible to decide correctly the habits of the man and his wife from the state of the home. Some homes where two to three pounds go in regularly are poor because the husband or his wife spends a sovereign a week on drink and gambling. Many men fall out of good positions solely through their drinking habits. They are warned and warned, and then dismissed."—*Sister Edith Banbury, Nottingham.*

IRON WORKERS.

1. "There is an improvement amongst all classes of men in regard to drinking, locally. Iron workers are the hardest drinkers, and I am told by rent collectors that it is more difficult to get rent from iron workers than general labourers."—*W. E. Moss, Blackburn.*

2. "There has been a considerable improvement in the matter of sobriety during the last ten years, so far as the steel trade is concerned, and, generally speaking, there is a more intelligent class of workmen.

3. "In respect of the housing conditions, there is a good deal of improvement in this direction, but this has partly been brought about by the men themselves, in many cases building or purchasing their own houses, and the Society has spent a matter of over £40,000 in providing houses for its members with decent internal accommodation. The effect of good housing accommodation is undoubtedly an important factor in the habits of the workpeople, and our experience is that the tendency invariably is to live up to the better conditions, and the improved housing accommodation and better surroundings give encouragement to a general improvement in habits and conduct."—*Sec. of British Steel Smelters, Iron and Tinplate Workers' Association.*

4. "The following statement is of the time lost by riveters in our Wallsend Shipyard out of fifty-four hours per week which ought to be worked. You will see that the time lost by most of the men is very excessive. A small part of lost time is due to bad weather or to other causes beyond the men's control, but most of the men work under shelter and most of them are somewhat heavy drinkers, and nearly the whole of the lost time is due directly or indirectly to their drinking habits. For the weeks ending April 16th, 23rd, 30th and May 7th, 1912, respectively, the average time lost was :

By one hundred and two Riveters in West Yard, out of fifty-four working hours, 18.6 ; 14.4 ; 17.6 ; and 19.2 hours.

By forty-nine Holders-up in West Yard, out of fifty-four working hours, 22.1 ; 17.7 ; 19.9, and 21.1 hours.

By 156 Riveters in East and Middle Yards, out of fifty-four working hours, none ; 11.3 ; 13.1 ; and 15.6 hours.

By fifty-one Holders-up in East and Middle Yards, out of fifty-four working hours, 12.2 ; 16.6 ; 17.2 ; and 19.2 hours.—*Managing Director, Wallsend Shipyard.*

5. "Two hundred pounds per annum—Four pounds a week—just an ordinary wage for a skilled mechanic. During the strike it was nothing exceptional for a miner to run up a bill for fifteen

shillings a week at the 'pub.,' and think 'nowt abaht it.' What an ordinary miner has for 'spending money' would make all the difference in my home between 'a tight squeeze' and comparative freedom from worry."—*The Vicar's four pounds a week, Evening News, Feb. 21st, 1913.*

THE WOOLLEN TRADE.

6. "A. Bs. As a foreman dyer for a period of twenty years earned from six to twenty pounds per week, and now receives parish pay. He was well educated and respectably connected. His present position is entirely due to drink.

"J. W. receives three pounds per week and gives his wife one pound. He spends the rest on drink and gambling.

"J. B. is a spinner. For years his wages varied from two to four pounds per week. He has been known on many occasions to draw four pounds on the Saturday and to borrow sixpence from one of the piecer boys on Monday morning.

"A. B. A man earning twenty-seven shillings per week lived in the slums. He became converted and signed the pledge. In one month he removed to a better house in a respectable district. In two years he refurnished the house, and with two of his children working, at the end of six years he paid in cash fifty pounds for a piano.

"A boy without parents, averaging twenty-three shillings per week, lived in lodgings and spent all his spare money on drink. Two years ago he became an abstainer. He has the same wages, is well-clothed, and has thirty pounds in the Savings Bank.

"E. S. An overlooker, who for twenty years earned between four and five pounds per week. He was married, but had no children. He wasted his money on drink and its associations and now, at seventy years of age, receives the Old Age Pension.

"J. G., a young man, gave way to drink and degenerated until he had no self-respect and seldom bought any article of clothing. He became an abstainer and married. He lives in a well-furnished cottage, and both he and his wife are well clothed.

"These cases are typical of hundreds engaged in the woollen trade. Among the miners of the district, who earn good wages, there is a large proportion who spend from ten shillings upwards on drink, and their homes suffer correspondingly, as to furniture and other desirable comforts." *J. Auty, J.P., Batley.*

AGRICULTURAL WORKERS.

1. "Very few farm, market-garden or nursery workmen are 'labourers'—in the sense that a carpenter's or bricklayer's labourer is—they are as much skilled artisans as the carpenter or bricklayer.

2. "No women earn up to two pounds at piecework in summer, many earn one pound; at daywork the wages are from ten to fifteen shillings. Men earn from eighteen shillings up to two pounds. It depends upon the class of work; five per cent. may earn two pounds; ten per cent., thirty shillings; thirty per cent.,

twenty-five shillings; thirty per cent., one pound; and twenty-five per cent. under.

3. "An ordinary outdoor workman of mine, one of a gang of six, employed almost entirely at piecework, met with an accident and put in a claim. He gave his earnings for each week of the year, they averaged twenty-six shillings and fivepence; the highest week they were fifty-five shillings, and the lowest nineteen shillings.

4. "A man employed by me went with his wife for a week to the seaside. He had been a drinker, but had become an abstainer and member of the Wesleyan Church. He told me that before he was an abstainer he never had money enough for a day's trip.

5. "Another gang of six here, employed on special work, whose total earnings are generally twelve pounds a week and over, contains some men who are abstainers, some who are not, and one who has a 'drinking' wife. The last is ragged, ill-fed and always hard up. The drinkers belong to no clubs and have no provision for rainy days. The abstainers are always well set up—their homes comfortable and well furnished—they go away for a summer holiday every year, to the seaside or to friends in the country—the others waste the holiday the firm allows them in odd days, loafing about generally.

6. "The conditions of sobriety are greatly improved—in my father's time we could not get any haymaking done without giving beer. Beer was sent for whenever in the summer we were late loading for market, and the potman with his string of cans was quite a familiar object on the farm. I have never given beer since I have had the management, nor do I allow any beer to be brought upon the premises. What difficulty there was about it has now quite gone. I have not seen a man come drunk to work for years—at one time it was of frequent occurrence.—*W. Lobjoit, J.P., Heston, Mdx.*

COLLIERS.

"He knew of homes in the colliery districts where the father and sons brought in five pounds a week, and the furniture in those homes was not worth ten shillings. In some model villages baths had been used for coals, and balustrades and doors for firewood."—*Mr. James Carr, of Chesterfield, Speech at Annual Conference of Guilds of Help, 1913.*

STEVEDORES AND DOCK LABOURERS.

1. "The majority of them are heavy drinkers. Much annoyance and loss are caused by them leaving their work to get liquor for themselves and others working on board; this sometimes happens even when near leaving-off time.

2. "Although receiving heavy wages they often ask us to advance money off their earnings. Seventy per cent. of the men earn about two pounds for about three days' work (including overtime) throughout the year, and sometimes having earned that amount in three days we do not see anything more of them for that week.

3. "The standard of living among the greater part of them who live in the dock district is low; those who are habitually heavy drinkers have homes filthy and destitute, and the children are uncared for. The majority of those who do not spend much in drink waste money in betting; this evil affects all classes of dock workers. Much is also spent on music halls and other amusements.

4. "The chief difference between the drinkers and the temperate is that the heavy drinker will have half a house or only two rooms, while the few non-drinkers among them will live in a six-roomed house in a better street and will have better food. There is but little improvement in the drinking habits of dock workers during the last twenty years."—*Master Stevedore, employing average of eighty men per day.*

TEXTILE WORKERS.

1. "The circumstances here are exceptional. This is not a textile centre, but a single industry located in an agricultural district. The directors and nearly all our leading men are total abstainers and do not allow drinking to excess amongst our employees.

2. "We have pursued this policy for many years and the employees, as a result of example and persuasion, for the most part do not touch liquor. We occasionally have to deal with a man, and if after plenty of warning he does not mend his ways, he loses his work. The moral effect of this is good, as they all know what to expect.

3. "Our employees, with their friends to the number of more than 2,000, have an annual excursion in the summer. I have for several years made it a point, if at home, of meeting the trains on their return and I have never seen anyone the worse for drink. I think this is good proof of general sobriety. As a natural result the standard of morality is high, and, on the whole, our people are thrifty, the homes are bright and clean, and the children well dressed, and there is little, if any, poverty.

4. "We have clubs for men, women and boys in large electric-lighted rooms, and we encourage them all we can to spend their evenings there. A very large proportion of our boys are members of a club which embraces scouting, boxing, reading, and games of all kinds. In this way we keep a hold over them at a very critical age. It is no doubt of the utmost importance to get hold of lads up to the age of twenty-one; if you can keep them straight up to that age, the majority of them are wise enough to keep straight afterwards. Of course, the conditions of life in the great industrial centres are quite different."—*Managing Director of Cloth Manufacturing Co., West of England.*

BOOTMAKERS.

1. "Our factory being in a village there are no actual slums or slum life to report on. The active temperance work carried on for nearly eighty years has fortunately resulted in a high general

level of sobriety, and there are only four licences of any kind to a population of 4,200, viz. : Two full licences ; one beerhouse ; one off-licence.

2. " It is not easy to speak of any marked difference between strictly moderate families and absolute abstainers, but the standard of comfort and the condition of children in families where either father or mother are given to drink is inevitably on a *very decidedly lower standard* than others.

3. " The efficiency of work of the abstainers and abstemious is always greater than that of the intemperate—partly because the latter are apt to be irregular in attendance at work."—*Director of Shoe Manufacturing Co. in Somersetshire.*

THE INFLUENCE OF THE EMPLOYER.

The two foregoing testimonies are important in that they show the potent influence of a good employer on the morale of the worker. The evidence from laundry proprietors also shows that when the employer takes a human and friendly interest in his people, sets his face against drinking and loose conduct, and inculcates self-respect, the workers respond and live up to that ethical standard expected from them. Labour leaders also have great influence on the lives and habits of their followers. One is not surprised to read of the stevedores and dock labourers being hard drinkers when one reads the description of the speech by the stevedore leader made during the Dock Strike, quoted from the *Daily Telegraph* of July 19, 1912, as follows :

"Mr. J. A. (Stevedores' Union) declared that they had been fooled by the Government all through. This Government sent soldiers to Tilbury and Grays, the world-famous Dublin Fusiliers, who, instead of shooting the strikers, shook hands with them as fellow countrymen. An officious police sergeant, presumably from Birmingham, ordered the strikers off the platform at the station, but the sergeant of the troops told him he was in charge and ordered him to leave. Then the troopers collected twelve shillings for the strikers, which was very soon converted into thirty-six pots of beer."

At the time that speech was made money was being collected to buy bread for the starving wives and children of the strikers. The two following statements from American Labour leaders contain much sounder teaching. It must also be remembered that the larger number of the Labour leaders in this country, and in Parliament, are abstainers, and many of them became equipped for public life by their work in the Temperance Movement.

Mr. H. G. Creel, President of the Associated Labour Press, of Chicago, some time ago wrote the following : " Drink and drinking have lost prestige with organized labour. Trades unionism has set its seal of eternal disapproval on intoxicating liquors as a beverage, and though the reform be slow, the time is surely coming when the holder of a union card must be a man free from the demoralizing and degrading habit of drink."

Mr. John F. Cuneen says : " Labour unions engage halls, distribute literature, go to considerable expense for the discussion

of economics, but at such gatherings there is one phase of the economic question upon which silence is maintained, and that is the liquor question. This question ought to be the foremost in discussion as to how to solve it rightly. It will do the labour unions little good if they fight to increase the working-man's wages if the working man turns over to the liquor traffic the increased wage he receives."—*The Pioneer (Canadian)*, December 27th, 1912.

FEMALE LABOUR.

1. "Scores of women could stay at home from the mill if they liked; they prefer mill work to house work, which they describe as "dree." In many cases, undoubtedly, the wife going to work makes a man careless and slack; he knows his wife can make both ends meet somehow, why should he trouble?

2. "In relation to women's wages, the Unions see to one price being paid in daywork, and in the textile trade of weaving where it is all piecework, the women earn as much as, if not more than, the men."—*W. E. Moss, Lees Hall, Blackburn.*

3. "Married women are not employed so extensively in the Nottingham factories as formerly. Their employment at all being chiefly:

(a) Through low wages paid to the husband being insufficient to maintain the home. Many men engaged on the railway, by the corporation as sewage men, on sanitary work, as sweepers, carters, stable men, etc., get from fifteen to twenty-five shillings per week.

(b) Through the death or ill-health of the husband.

(c) Through the drinking habits of the husband, either in bouts, or steady constant drinking. The husband in many such cases gives his wife fifteen to eighteen shillings per week, and spending ten shillings to one pound per week himself.

(d) Through the betting of the husband.

(e) Through the home seeming intolerably dull, after years spent in the bustle of factory life; so the wife still goes out to work that she may have so much to spend on pleasure. In such cases the wife receives the husband's allowance for house-keeping and keeps her own money to dispose of as she likes. Sometimes it is saved for a rainy day, often spent on the moment's whim or a holiday.

4. "The result of experience makes one conclude that the causes of married women going out to work might be thus divided:

(a) Low wages to husband thirty-five per cent.; (b) Ill-health, twenty per cent.; (c) Drinking of husband, thirty per cent.; (d) Betting, ten per cent.; and (e) Craving for excitement, five per cent.

5. "Few unmarried girls in Nottingham are on the labour market, I should imagine, as a result of the drinking of parents—but three-quarters of the married women are directly or indirectly, as the low wages and sickness of the husband are the results of drink. Sometimes he is unfit because physically and mentally neglected by his drinking parents when he was a child. Sometimes he is unfit because of his own drinking habits.

6. "The married women injuriously affect the standard of wages paid to women because they are willing to work for less rather than not get work at all. Especially has this been true in the homework, of which there has been a great deal in Nottingham. Many women who do work at home will work under the market price if they know they can receive the money as soon as the work is done. Then it goes at once in beer or bread.

7. "In a drinking home this homework is carried on under incredibly shocking circumstances. I have seen a woman spotting ladies' veils in a tiny room where her husband was dying of consumption, and where her four children were ill with blister-pox. I have seen women doing lace-clipping in rooms reeking with disease germs. I have seen hosiery underwear being finished in rooms where people were dying from malignant cancer. I find many sad cases can be traced back to drink, even if the drinking habit has ceased.

8. "A period in a man or woman's life of excessive drinking will cripple the home financially, or plant disease germs that develop when poverty or slackness of work or other causes compels the drink to be cut off. When a woman has been married a year or two seems to be the critical time. Then too often the drink habit will commence. This is made so terribly easy by the beer off-licence and the grocer's licence. The stream of women about 10.30 a.m., 1 p.m. and 9 p.m. to the off-licence beer-store causes such a rush of trade that oftentimes there is a little queue waiting to be served. These beer off-licences are a greater menace to our women than the public-houses.

9. "I am confident drinking at home is on the increase amongst our women. The men here are great on allotment gardens, and produce fine flowers and vegetables. This is a counter-attraction to the public-house and gives the men a healthy occupation. It is a desire for excitement that sends many to the public-house. There are light, company and argument. Places of amusement free from drink, club rooms free from gambling are needed more and more."—*Sister Edith Banbury, Nottingham.*

10. According to the Census Returns of 1911 for England and Wales, over 680,000 married women, excluding widows, are in regular employment. This fact, added to the other that there are no less than 146,000 children under fourteen years of age, including "half-timers," earning their living, reflects most discredibly upon the husbands and fathers—who for the most part are drinkers.

LAUNDRY WORKERS AND SOBRIETY.

CAUSES OF MARRIED WOMEN BEING IN LABOUR MARKET.

1. "I should think there are about fifty per cent. of married women in my laundry, and about twenty per cent. of them have to work to keep either a lazy or drunken husband, sometimes both, very often the fault of the women for not making her husband provide for her when they were first married. I have known young girls marry respectable, hard-working men, and instead of giving up their own work and making their husband keep them, they have

preferred to keep on working, with the result the husband falls out of work, gets a bit careless, and eventually becomes a public-house lounge because he has a wife at work.

2. "During the last twenty years there is an enormous improvement in sobriety amongst laundry workers; formerly a good skilled worker would not work without she had her beer-can by her side, to-day a great number of workers are total abstainers, and in most of the well-conducted laundries, no intoxicating liquor is allowed on the premises."—*Laundry Proprietor, Starch Green, W.*

3. "An exceptionally well-managed laundry, the manager of which is a total abstainer. The girls and women employed, about fifty in number, are fairly sober. It is only rarely any trouble arises through drinking. Three cases only have occurred during the last four years in which women have been discharged through drinking. Half of the women employed are married women or widows. Cannot give causes of them being wage earners. A few of them are living apart from their husbands, but the cause is not known. No liquor allowed on laundry premises. At any entertainments given no intoxicants are allowed or provided. The manager and manageress will not tolerate any drinking, hence condition as to sobriety very satisfactory."—*Rep. of Laundry on Kentish Coast.*

4. "Ten returns by laundry employers agree there is very much improvement in regard to sobriety during the last fifteen years. Of the women engaged in shirt and collar ironing, something like seventy per cent. are married. Of the women engaged in sorting and packing, the majority of them are single. Some of the employers give as causes of married women being forced into labour market: Husbands unskilled, unemployed, early marriages, casual employment of husbands, laziness and low wages."—*Special Investigator.*

5. One employer says: "Some of the elder women still survive, but have had to mend their ways—they may get drunk on Saturday, but would not dare to appear at the laundry until they were sober. There is no reason to suppose that any of the younger women or girls ever take too much—those who have dinner or tea on the premises never have intoxicants. I have sometimes been with them for 'bean-feasts,' but nobody has ever been drunk."—Another employer endorses this as his own experience, and says: "Judging by reports there has been an enormous improvement within the last twenty years."

6. A third employer reports as to "(a) Machine ironers:—Of those under twenty, practically all unmarried—over twenty, a large proportion are married. (b) Hand ironers:—About the same as (a), but including widows, perhaps seventy-five per cent. of those over thirty are married. (c) Packers and sorters: Practically all unmarried."

7. The following causes are assigned for the married woman being at work in the laundry: "(a) Young women often continue work after marriage from choice unless they have children. (b) Mothers are driven to work owing to the husband being ill or out of

work. (c) As the family increases women have to supplement the husband's wages. (Personally I think they would be better off if they stayed at home and kept house properly.) (d) Husbands sometimes expect their wives to support them, either partly or entirely. (e) When the children are all of school age the mothers return to work when not always absolutely compelled to do so." Says one employer: "I never allow the husbands to interfere—many are brutes enough to rob their wives of their earnings."

8. "In this district practically all laundry workers are sober. Any not so are soon discharged. There has been some improvement in recent years? Formerly washers were engaged at a daily wage and beer. One-fourth to one-third are married, mostly hand ironers, the proportions being among (a) Shirt and collar machinists and calender hands, five to ten per cent.; (b) Hand ironers, eighty per cent.; and (c) Packers and sorters, five or six per cent. The causes that have forced such workers to become wage earners are: some are widows; some have husbands unable or unwilling to work; and some work till the family comes along. Any cause that prevents the husband earning a fair wage, say, twenty-three to thirty shillings a week, induces the wife to 'lend a hand.' One of the chief causes (though far from the only one) of their inability to obtain regular paying work is drink."

9. "Conditions in regard to sobriety have greatly improved during the last ten years; beer allowances are practically abolished except in a small number of the old-fashioned laundries. A very small proportion of the shirt and collar machinists and calender hands are married women; but probably fifty per cent. of the hand ironers are, and the packers and sorters are married. The causes of married women being at work are mainly husbands' laziness or drinking habits. As husbands are mainly drawn from the working classes a genuine shortage of employment is also an important cause, and a small proportion of married women become ironers to augment the husband's wage, which is usually comparatively small.

10. "Laundry workers are much better than they used to be; there are not many total abstainers, but they are a fairly sober lot. No intoxicants are allowed in any of the laundries with which I am connected excepting at wedding celebrations. There is a decided improvement in recent years. I should reckon about twenty-five per cent. of those employed are married women, and the causes of their being at work are: Widowhood, bad and lazy husbands, often addicted to drink. Some like the work and return after marriage, and so help the home finances and enjoy greater independence."—*Essex Employer*.

11. The present condition of laundry workers in regard to sobriety is much better; there has been very much improvement in recent years? At one laundry the owners were obliged to fetch their women out of the public-houses years ago, but they never need to do so now. At one laundry the proportion of married women was about half, but at others there were more girls than women. The causes which force such women to become wage earners are drink, insufficient wages of the husband, widowhood, and

in some cases from choice. A good many are such through drunken husbands, though there are other causes as well. A worker at Kensal Road writes as follows:—"In this district there is still an immense amount of drink among laundry workers. One of the chief causes of women being wage earners is the want of work for men."

The evidence obtained proves that a considerable number of married women are forced into the labour market by the drinking habits of their husbands. Miss Banbury, of Nottingham, whose statement shows her to be a close observer, puts thirty per cent. down to that cause. We may safely assume that this factor enters into most departments of female labour, and forces women into sweated industries. If that part of female labour which is now drink forced were withdrawn from competition with other labour, it follows that the general rate of wages paid for such work would be very materially increased.

THE RELATION OF ALCOHOL TO DISEASE.

In view of the Insurance Act, and the obligations imposed thereby upon taxpayers, employers and employed, to contribute to the cost of sickness, it becomes increasingly necessary to diminish disease and in every possible way to destroy the roots of those serious mischiefs which entail upon Society the burdens of inefficiency, and to promote that sound physical, mental and moral health so essential to the Commonwealth. Henry Grattan truly said, "The best husbandry is the husbandry of the human creature."

The following facts prove alcohol to be a most fruitful source of all those evils of disease, and especially of tuberculosis, against which modern legislation and science are arrayed.

ACCIDENTS: "My own Hospital—St. Bartholomew's—is close to the Meat Market, and, unfortunately, a very large number of the meat porters are very greatly addicted to alcohol, and we have a great difficulty to get their wounds to heal properly, because they are infused with alcohol, and because of the condition of their tissues due to alcohol. These cases tend to run a very chronic tedious course, and sometimes even end fatally. One fights shy of having to operate upon patients who are alcoholic, because of the degeneration of their tissues—they do not heal well, in spite of the asepticism of the present day."—*W. McAdam Eccles, M.S.*

SYPHILIS: "Alcohol is a particularly aggravating factor in the progress of syphilis. A person addicted to alcohol is much more vulnerable to it, and if he becomes at all alcoholic, he breaks down much more quickly from all forms of syphilitic trouble. I think it ought to be brought out in this connection (syphilis as a cause of physical deterioration of the race), that a great number of individuals become infected with venereal diseases simply because they are intoxicated. That is a practical working point, so that the alcohol question, quite apart from the effects of alcohol itself, is an abundant source of further syphilitic infection of the nation. A man under the influence of alcohol becomes immoral."—*Sir Victor Horsley, F.R.S., F.R.C.S.*

SYPHILIS : " I make it a rule of asking every man who presents himself, who is infected with syphilis, as to what condition he was in at the time when he ran the risk of catching it. I have been astonished at the number who were under the influence of alcohol at the time. It is certainly over seventy-five per cent. That is a fact of very great importance, seeing that syphilis itself is such a very strong factor in producing deterioration. A person who is actually affected by alcohol is in a state of lowered resistance to almost any virus, particularly syphilis."—*W. McAdam Eccles, M.S.*

PHTHISIS : " Cases of phthisis in asylums occur to a great extent from among those patients suffering from the varieties of alcoholic insanity, such as forms of melancholia and dementia. Of the male deaths from phthisis at Claybury in 1903, forty-four per cent. were from drink cases ; of the females thirty-three per cent. were drink cases ; and in the total cases of phthisis deaths there was an heredity of drink."—*Robert Jones, M.D.*

PNEUMONIA : " So far as enteric fever and pneumonia are concerned, it is a well-known fact that both of these diseases in alcoholics tend to very greatly run a fatal course."—*W. McAdam Eccles, M.S.*

CANCER : " The experience of the United Kingdom Temperance and General Provident Institution is that death from cancer is more than twice as frequent among the non-abstaining section of their policy-holders than it is among the abstaining section. Cancer is twice as frequent among brewers and London publicans as among clergymen. My experience of this disease enables me to tell you it is more rapid and more distressing among those who take alcohol, and that free consumption of alcohol adds greatly to the rapidity and severity of the disease."—*Sir A. Pearce Gould, K.C.V.O., F.R.C.S.*

ALCOHOL AND DISEASE : " In adult life alcohol accounts for even more disease than the ubiquitous tubercle bacillus, for it is often the forerunner of tubercle. The death-rate for consumption is higher in public-house servants than in any other class on earth. Alcohol is also frequently the forerunner, not only of tubercle, but of well-nigh all cirrhosis of the liver and neuritis, of half the insanity and cerebral disease, and much dyspepsia, pneumonia and accident. These facts are writ largely in the ledger of the doctor who underwrites the insurance risk, just as plainly as they are writ in the ledgers of the insurance companies, who allow a substantial rebate off the premiums, as well as special bonuses to total abstainers."—*E. W. Lowry, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., F.R.G.S.*

PHYSICAL DETERIORATION : " Both Mr. Eccles and Dr. Jones testified to the vulnerability of alcoholic persons to syphilis and tuberculosis, and to their general liability to all forms of what in common parlance are called inflammatory disorders ; such persons also suffer much longer from the effects of any malady, thus involving their dependents in prolonged privation . . . As the result of the evidence laid before them, the Committee are convinced that the abuse of alcoholic stimulants is a most potent and deadly agent of physical deterioration."—*Report of Interdepartmental Committee, 1904.*

"CIRRHOSIS OF LIVER: Deaths from Alcoholism. The report of the Registrar-General for 1910 gives the following returns:—

	1895.	1900.	1905.	1910.
Alcoholism	2,045	3,638	2,221	1,490
Cirrhosis	3,591	4,639	4,008	3,221
	<hr/> 5,636	<hr/> 8,277	<hr/> 6,229	<hr/> 4,711

In considering these figures we must admit that all cirrhosis cannot be attributed to alcoholism. On the other hand, the table does not include the deaths certified as resulting from accident or disease in which alcoholism probably was the factor which determined the death of the patient. None of such deaths are recorded in the table given above. Nevertheless, of every million persons living, no less than forty-two die of alcoholism and ninety of cirrhosis. The actual number of those whose death is attributable directly to alcoholism must be far higher than the figures given."—*Editor of Med. Temp. Rev., Feb., 1913.*

ALCOHOLIC CASES, to the number of 1,169, were treated at Bethnal Green Infirmary during the nine years ending April 16th, 1909, the number of deaths being ninety-six, or 8·2 per cent. The Medical Officer of Health reported 223 cases of cirrhosis of the liver, with seventy deaths; ninety-nine of peripheral neuritis with twelve deaths; forty-eight of chronic alcoholism, with six deaths; 571 of podagra (gout), with one death; forty-nine of alcoholic gastritis, with no deaths; forty-six of cardiac muscle failure, with two deaths; eighty-five of acute alcoholism, with one death; forty-three of alcoholic insanity, with three deaths; five of alcoholic pneumonia, with one death. It should be observed that the record of deaths applies only to those taking place in the institution; the number occurring after discharge and probably ascribed to other causes would greatly increase the percentage. This record of alcoholic disease and death in Bethnal Green is the more remarkable, inasmuch as that district is one almost mainly peopled by the very poor, but with a large number of public-houses. The mischief indicated is that observed in one public institution only, and seems to point to a huge amount of drinking among the people of that poor locality, although in no degree worse than similar districts elsewhere.

DRINK AND DEATH: Dr. Waldo (the Southwark Coroner, at an inquest yesterday): "When do you think persons are intoxicated?" Witness (a widow): "When they are quite helpless." Dr. Waldo: "That is a Southwark definition." Dr. T. Massie said, that since Christmas there had been eighty cases of delirium tremens at the workhouse, but this was not the only fatal one. The jury found that death was set up by excessive drinking.—*Daily News, Jan. 11th, 1913.*

DEATHS IN COMMON LODGING HOUSES: Sir Shirley F. Murphy, M.R.C.S.: "At each age the death-rate from alcoholism in the common lodging-house population was very greatly in excess of the death-rate in the total London population."—*Evid. P. D. Com., 1904.*

INCREASED DRINKING BY WOMEN: "One perhaps does not see the actual amount of drunkenness in the streets of women as may have been the case fifty or sixty years ago. But I am quite sure that there is more actual alcohol drunk by women, particularly amongst the upper classes"—*W. McAdam Eccles, M.S.*

NO CLASS EXEMPT: It is important to remember that the alcoholic evil is not confined to the poor and the overcrowded. This may be seen from the report of the Dalrymple Home for Inebriates, 1912. Of over one thousand inmates, 257 are described as being independent; seventy-nine as medical men (*sic.*); forty-three as solicitors, twenty as barristers, and forty-eight as military officers, each paying from four to eight guineas per week.

OCCUPATIONAL COMPARISON of the Death-Rate from Consumption of the Lungs:—

All occupied and retired males	...	...	...	100
Shopkeepers	...	...	...	86
Fruiterers	...	...	...	83
Chemists and druggists	...	...	...	80
Brewers	...	...	...	133
Inn and hotel keepers...	...	...	...	145
Hotel servants...	...	...	...	290

65th Annual Report of the Registrar-General.

CONSUMPTION AND PATERNAL DRINKING: An investigation by Professor von Bunge, of 445 cases of tuberculosis among the children of *fathers* whose drinking habits are described, gives the following percentages of cases: Father not an habitual drinker: 149 cases or 8·7 per cent.; and habitual and moderate drinker: 169 cases or 10·7 per cent.; an habitual and immoderate drinker: 67 cases or 16·4 per cent.; and a confirmed drunkard, 60 cases or 21·7 per cent. Every family was *excluded* in which either of the parents was known to be suffering from tuberculosis.

THE LIQUOR TRADE AND DISEASE: "Of 149 patients connected with the liquor trade—brewers' men, potmen, waiters, and the like—sixty-one had tuberculosis of the lung, as compared with forty-four out of 149 whose occupations did not involve the handling of drink. The other organs of the body suffered from tuberculosis in the alcohol dealers twice as often as those outside 'the trade.'"—*Dr. Howship Dickinson, consulting Physician to St. George's Hospital, London.*

ALCOHOL PROMOTES TUBERCLE: "Thinking that the indoor confinement of those in the drink trade might explain their liability to tuberculosis, Dr. Dickinson classified the cases under the heads of indoor and outdoor employment, with the result that he came definitely to the conclusion 'that there is no such preponderance of fresh air or the want of it in either case as to account for the very decided preponderance of tubercle under drink. We may therefore conclude, and that confidently,' he says, 'that alcohol promotes tubercle . . . because it impairs the tissues and makes them ready to yield to the attacks of the parasites.'"—*Alliance Year Book, 1913.*

PARISIAN STATISTICS: Dr. Barbier found from an analysis of the statistics of the Paris Hospital, that ninety-eight per cent.

of the cases of pulmonary tuberculosis that had migrated to Paris as adults had indulged immoderately in alcohol, and he points out that these migrated adults constituted two-thirds of the whole of the patients so affected who had been admitted to the Paris hospitals.

PREDISPOSING CAUSATION: Dr. Legrain maintains that the relationship between alcoholism and tuberculosis is no longer contested. According to this author, it acts just as it does in predisposing to other diseases; but, he says, tuberculosis claims so many more victims than these diseases that in this case the problem appears more serious.

OCCUPATIONAL MORTALITY: Dr. Tatham's statistics of the mortality from tuberculosis in different callings show that the classes of men most liable to excessive consumption of alcohol are also those most ravaged by tuberculosis. The mean mortality being represented by one hundred, that caused by tuberculosis is:

In Barmen	...	...	257	In Sweeps	...	...	141
„ Pedlars	...	...	239	„ Publicans	...	...	140
„ Dock Labourers	...	...	176	„ Coachmen	...	...	124
„ Strolling Musicians	...	...	174	„ Coalmen	...	...	116
„ Hairdressers	...	...	149	„ Butchers	...	...	105
„ Brewers	...	...	148				

PRONE TO EXCESS AND INFECTION: When the Registrar-General's statistics are studied it is evident, as remarked by Newsholme, that "those who are particularly prone to alcoholic excess, and are particularly exposed to infection from indiscriminate expectoration, are such persons as innkeepers and inn servants; those who likewise are addicted to frequenting public-houses, as general labourers, messengers, costermongers."

TUBERCLE AND ALCOHOLIC PARALYSIS: Dr. Hector Mackenzie speaks of alcoholism as "a powerful predisposing cause of tuberculosis." It is almost invariable to find tubercle present in the lungs of patients dying in the course of alcoholic paralysis. Tubercle of the peritoneum and pleura frequently complicates cirrhosis of the liver. I have found a history of alcoholic excess in a considerable proportion of my acute phthisical cases.

LIABILITY OF CHRONIC DRINKERS: Professor Osler says: "It was formerly thought that alcohol was in some way antagonistic to tubercular disease, but the observations of late years indicate clearly that the reverse is the case, and that chronic drinkers are much more liable to both acute and pulmonary tuberculosis. It is probably altogether a question of altered tissue soil, alcohol lowering the vitality, and enabling the bacillus to more readily develop and grow."

DISASTERS CAUSED BY ALCOHOLISM: "'The strongest man,' says Brouardel, 'who has once taken to drink is absolutely powerless against the attacks of this disease (tubercle). Indeed,' he says, 'I can say that a universal cry of despair arises from the whole universe at the sight of the disasters caused by alcoholism.'"
—"Alcohol and Tuberculosis." Prof. G. Sims Woodhead, M.D.

CONCLUSION:—"Any measure, State or individual, tending to limit the ravages of alcoholism will be our most precious auxiliary in the crusade against tuberculosis."—*The late Professor Brouardel*

ALCOHOL IN THE CAUSATION OF INSANITY.

In giving evidence before the Interdepartmental Committee on Physical Deterioration (1904), Dr. Joseph Wigglesworth, said: "Alcohol is an extremely potent cause of lunacy. I can give you statistics on the subject, because I worked this out recently for a different purpose. I recently submitted to a careful analysis all the cases of alcoholic insanity admitted into Rainhill Asylum during a period of eleven years—1891 to 1901 inclusive. These were worked out. Each individual case was carefully reviewed, and in doubtful cases, even if drink was said to be the cause, that was not put down. I was anxious to get at the thing exactly, without any exaggeration. During this period 4,261 persons were admitted, and in no less than 1,248 of these there was clear evidence that the insanity was due, wholly or in part, to the toxic effects of alcohol. These figures give a percentage of drink cases on the whole number of cases admitted of 29·28."

The Committee say (par. 172) in their report: "In further illustration of this point it is stated as the result of observation of the offspring of female chronic drunkards in Liverpool prison, (1) that the death-rate among inebriate mothers was nearly two-and-a-half times that among the infants of sober mothers of the same stock; (2) that in the alcoholic family there was a decrease of vitality in successive children, *e.g.*, in one family the earlier born children were healthy, the fourth was of defective intelligence, the fifth an epileptic idiot, the sixth stillborn, Nature at last providing its own remedy; (3) that taking women of the same class, with 125 children of twenty-one drunken mothers, sixty-nine died under two years = fifty-five per cent., while of 138 children of twenty-eight sober mothers, thirty-three died under two years = 23·9 per cent."

PURE DRINK CASES: "A large proportion of the recoverable cases admitted to the London County Asylums consists of pure drink cases, and of these fifty per cent. are discharged within three weeks to six months of admission. They often return again in a short time, and some cases termed 'recurrent mania' and 'recurrent melancholia,' are discharged and readmitted many times, thus fictitiously raising the recovery rate. Many of these people would not come to asylums were they not subject to the temptation of drink."—"Alcohol and Insanity," by F. W. Mott, M.A., F.R.C.P., F.R.S.

"ONE PEDIGREE is of such importance as to deserve special mention, as it was almost of the nature of an experiment. A woman married two husbands; by the first she had a family of children sound in mind and body, likewise grandchildren. By the second husband, a chronic drunkard, she had three sons: the first suffered with muscular dystrophy, the second (apparently healthy) was a soldier, and a third was an epileptic imbecile."—65th Report of the Lunacy Commissioners.

RETURNS OF INSANITY: "In England and Wales during 1912, the insane numbered 135,661, an increase of 2,504 over 1911. There has been an alarming and continuous increase since 1862, when the rate

per 10,000 of population was 20·2. In 1912 the rate was 37·1."—*Rep. of Lunacy Com. for 1912.*

"ALCOHOLISM in one or both parents . . . has a distinct influence in the production of feeble-mindedness and epilepsy, and also, by lowering the normal resistive power in the offspring, renders them liable to break down under various stresses later in life, and to become insane."—*Report of the Royal Commission on the Care and Control of the Feeble-minded.*

SECONDARY ACTION OF ALCOHOL: "If a person possesses a congenital mental defect or be already epileptic, either he is unable to take it [alcohol], or, if he does take it, a moderate quantity is sufficient to precipitate insanity or greatly increase the number and severity of the fits; again, it incites ungovernable rage, followed by dangerous and criminal acts."—*Ibid.*

DRINK AND THE DEATH-RATE.

THE INCIDENCE of the number of licences to population and mortality is shown by the following return of the Secretary of the Birkenhead Vigilance Committee, 1912:

BIRKENHEAD: *Argyle Ward*.—Population per acre, 52·04; Licences per 1,000 pop., 5·02; death-rate, 18·08. *Grange Ward*.—Population, per acre, 80·06; licences per 1,000, 2·04; death-rate, 14·04.

CLAUGHTON: Population, per acre, 18·9; licences per 1,000, ·05; death-rate, 10·04.

CLIFTON: Population, per acre, 81·03; licences per 1,000, ·79; death-rate, 11·08.

MERSEY: Population, per acre, 56·09; licences per 1,000, 2·22; death-rate, 14·3.

This is instructive, and it would seem that licensed houses have an even greater influence on mortality than overcrowding. Thus in Grange Ward the population is 80·06 to the acre, and 2·04 licences per 1,000, the death-rate is 14·04. While in Argyle Ward, with the population 52·04 per acre, and 5·02 licences per 1,000, the death-rate is 18·08.

LIVERPOOL STATISTICS: "One hundred and fourteen deaths were certified by Coroners' Juries as due to excessive drinking, twenty-three cases more than in 1910. In the Exchange Division 52·1 per cent. of persons who died in 1911 died in Hospital or Workhouse; in Walton Division 24·5 per cent.; in Wavertree District 21·1 per cent."—*M.O.H. Report, 1911.*

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF FULHAM.

THE REPORT of the Medical Officer of Health for 1911-1912, shows that with a population (1911) of 153,284, there were 2,910 deaths, equal to a rate of 14·5 per 1,000; the highest since 1906, and 0·6 above average for past five years. These included deaths from the following stated causes:

	All ages	25-45	45-65	65 and upwards	In public institutions in the district
*Alcoholism ...	9	2	6	1	4
Cirrhosis of Liver	22	4	14	4	6
Suicides ...	14	4	10	—	3
	—	—	—	—	—
	45	10	30	5	13
	—	—	—	—	—

* Deaths from delirium tremens included, active and chronic alcoholism, but *not* those certified as due to organic diseases attributed to alcoholism.

INFANTILE MORTALITY:—Five hundred and seventeen died under one year. One hundred and twenty-five per 1,000 of registered births compare unfavourably with last four years.

THE COUNCIL adopted a resolution to oppose all licences for intoxicating liquors. Two applications for additional licences were made, but were not granted.

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF HAMMERSMITH.

FROM REPORT of M.O.H. for 1910 (signed 31st March, 1911) :
 “ Population, 127,413.—*Births*, 2,910 ; 374 below average for the previous ten years ; *Deaths*, 1,569 ; which is 170 below average for previous ten years. Deaths from stated causes were as follows :

	All ages	15-25	25-65	65 and upwards	In public institutions
Alcoholism and					
Cirrhosis of Liver	17	—	15	2	4
Suicides ...	13	3	8	2	7
	—	—	—	—	—
	30	3	23	4	11
	—	—	—	—	—

INFANTILE MORTALITY : “ Number of deaths under one year, 304 ; giving a rate of ninety-nine per 1,000 births. Average for previous ten years, 427 ; with an average population of 118,203. The Health Visitor made 2,522 visits, discovering eighty-nine premises with insanitary conditions.”

DRINK AND CRIME—DRUNKENNESS AND “ LEGAL DRUNKENNESS.”

1. “ My experience for six years as a magistrate is that frequently, on Monday morning especially, all the machinery for administration of justice is occupied in dealing with the products of the ‘ drink trade. I have before me a Monday list containing eighteen charges :—Thirteen drunk, two suspected persons, one insulting behaviour, two larceny. It may be fairly concluded that but for drink none of these people would have been before the court.”—*W. J. Lobjoit, J.P.*

2. “ The proportions of men and women in prisons and asylums are as follows : To every 1,000 men in prison there are 139 women. In inebriate asylums : 1,053 women to every 304 men. In lunatic asylums : 1,140 women to every 1,000 men.”—*Census Returns, 1911.*

3. "My opinion, founded on wide experience, is that the ill effects of drink, not merely drunkenness, can hardly be over-estimated. The convictions for "Crimes of Drunkenness and Violence" form only a part of the evils of drink in causing crime. I have been astonished to find, as a magistrate, how many of the crimes of theft, false pretences, etc., are really results of drink."—*Theodore Dodd, M.A., J.P., Oxford.*

4. "Of the evils of excessive drinking anybody who has been an employer of labour, a man of business, and, above all things, a judge in a criminal court, is able to bear the very highest testimony. It is not so much the people who have absolutely fuddled themselves to the extreme point that I refer, because they are very often harmless, but those who have taken just that excess of drink which deprived them of their reason and judgment, and makes them ill-tempered, irritable and passionate. It is those people mainly who are accused of all sorts of crime. Some of the worst crimes that I have had to deal with in an experience of fifteen years were crimes committed by men who had been in that state which the police technically describe as 'in drink, but not drunk.' In other words, they had not taken so much as deprived them of all control, it would be better if they had, but so much as deprived them of their reason, and drove them into bad temper, and to do acts which they would not otherwise have dreamed of doing."—*Lord Justice Phillimore (Legal Temp. Soc., 1913).*

5. "My general experience is probably similar to that of everybody who touches social questions. Drink is at the root of nearly all the troubles one refers to. Every morning brings women to the Court for summonses against their husbands for assaults, for turning them out of doors, for neglect to maintain, or desertion. At the hearing the commonest answer to questions is, 'It's only when he's drunk that he does these things, for when he's sober there ain't a better man living'—and when I ask, how often is that? she replies, 'well, he's been drunk more or less for the last six months and I've to put up with this sort of life for years until I'm tired of it.'

6. "It's the same with cruelty and neglect of children. The Society's officer almost invariably explains that 'drink is at the bottom of it, and the woman is worse than the man.' That is the case very frequently—the man may start it, but when the woman has once given way, there is nothing to pull her up as there is in a man's work. Ordinary violence between men or women is again almost invariably the results of a 'drunken quarrel.' Indeed, it would be a matter for surprise and comment if it were otherwise. Sober people are seldom violent. They are frequently intolerant and brutal to their wives owing to their notion that a wife is a chattel or, at the best, a domestic drudge, and they occasionally make it necessary to grant a separation, but they generally are able to refrain from violent assault.

7. "Offences against property, such as theft, burglaries or forgeries, are not directly connected with drink, but those who commit them come from families with a drink history in them, according to the officer's report. In one way drink is the cause of robbery, because if a man gets hopelessly drunk at night, he is often

robbed in a public-house, or in a street, or in a brothel. He is a fruitful sower of crime in others, although he remembers scarcely anything of what happened. On the general question of improvement I suppose everybody suffers from pessimism. My present inclination is to feel despondent."—*Mr. Cecil Chapman, Metrop. P.C. Magistrate, Oct., 1912.*

8. "I hope you will be able to effect some good in the direction you desire, but I am afraid I could put nothing before you of so definite a character—as to be practically useful in your labours. My own view, for what it is worth, is that intemperance is *gradually* dying out—at all events, I see nothing to suggest that it is on the increase (as compared with the last few years) in any class of the community. I regard *gambling*, especially on horse-racing, as the most demoralizing element at present at work among the working classes—that this evil is widespread is evident to anyone walking through the London streets and noticing the number of workmen obviously engaged in scanning the betting news."—*Mr. Paul Taylor, London P.C. Magistrate, Oct., 1912.*

9. "We have to report that the number of persons committed to prison in 1911 was almost exactly the same as in 1910. There was a diminution in cases of serious crime and a marked decrease in theft and theft by housebreaking, which items comprise by far the larger part of the real crime in Scotland. On the other hand, we regret to have to report an increase in assaults by husbands on wives, and a marked increase in miscellaneous offences, chiefly drunkenness and the other offences caused by drink. The increase can be traced mainly to those districts where employment has been good and where wages have been unwisely spent."—*Rep. of Prison Commissioners for Scotland, 1911.*

Here, again, is some evidence that drunkenness does not only originate in poverty, but is increased by prosperity.

10. "There is an increase in the number of assaults on officers of the law, and a marked increase in assaults by husbands on wives, *viz.*, from 414 to 480, which cannot but suggest that the comparatively lenient sentences often imposed for this cowardly crime are quite inadequate to act as a deterrent. There is an increase in the number of cases of cruelty to children, and also in the various classes of crime against decency and morality, such as procuration and immoral traffic."—*Ibid.*

11. "Miscellaneous offences, as usual, account for by far the larger proportion of commitments to prison, *viz.*, 35,804 out of a total of 46,019, or, roughly speaking, seventy-eight per cent. on the whole. In this class there are comprised all the offences connected with drunkenness, and here, unfortunately, we have to record an increase as compared with last year of 1,229 in breach of the peace and over 509 in drunkenness, and drunk and incapable. The total of these offences is still far below the average, but this renewed upward tendency is very disappointing, though, perhaps, not altogether unaccountable in consequence of the increased prosperity in certain trades. The places chiefly responsible for the increases are Greenock, Govan, Partick, and Dumbartonshire, where ship-building has been very prosperous, and Fife, where the prosperity in

coal-mining (before the Strike) and the work at Rosyth probably explain the increase."—*Ibid.*

12. "For the safety of the public it is necessary that, before liberation of such a person (*i.e.*, criminal lunatic), the Secretary for Scotland should be satisfied that it is practically certain that the inmate will not again commit crime, and reliable guardians have to be obtained, with whom the person can live, and who will see that he abstains from intoxicating liquor and complies with the other conditions of his licence. He can only live in the place approved of, and is reported on periodically for a number of years in order that, if there be the slightest sign of danger to the public, he may be at once returned to the lunatic department. They recover from this insanity very shortly after they cease to get drink, but there is no security that, if released, they would not do the same thing again, to the danger of the public."—*Ibid.*

13. "During seven days in April, 1913, at Bow Street Police Court, London, there were 206 charges, of which number eighty-six were charges of drunkenness, *i.e.*, drunk and disorderly, or drunk and incapable. There were three charges of larceny, seven charges of assault, one of wounding, one of murder, and one of indecency, where drink was a causal factor in each case, and a number of 'beggars' showed signs of drink habit, but their histories I was not able to obtain."—(*Notes supplied by Mr. Herbert.*)

14. "The Lord Chief Justice of England (Lord Alverstone) declares that after forty years' experience at the Bar and ten years as judge, he knew as a fact that ninety per cent. of the crime in this country depended on intemperance. At first sight this would seem an almost incredible statement, but Lord Alverstone is no extremist, and statements of a similar character, differing only in degree, have been made by practically all the judges of the land."—*Belfast Evening Telegraph*, Aug. 21st, 1909.

15. "The Commissioners again publish brief notes on the life histories of thirty male and thirty female prisoners selected in the order of appearance in a prison register, *i.e.*, the order in which they were received in prison. It is noteworthy that of the thirty males all are reported as being addicted to drink, except one. The longest sentence was sixty days for cruelty to children. The others were all short. Of the thirty females, twenty-four owe their imprisonment directly to drink. In the case of some of the others, while it is not recorded that they drank, the husband's drunken habits have led to the trouble."—*Scots Prisons Report*, 1911.

16. "In Scotland in 1907 there were 90,000 cases of public disorder due directly to the influence of drink. From fifty to sixty per cent. of the cases of theft might be traced to drink; as to serious crime, personal investigations were made by experienced officers into the histories of *fifty long-sentenced* prisoners. The first result showed that (a) thirty-four per cent. of the men were sober at the time of the crime; (b) thirty-four per cent. of them had before the crime been engaged in a drinking bout, and (c) thirty-two per cent. of them were to some extent under the influence of drink just consumed. A similar inquiry a few years later showed that sixty per cent. of long-

sentenced criminals had been drinking just before the crime. A third inquiry gave drink as a factor in fifty per cent. of similar cases, and a fourth investigation resulted in showing only twenty-four per cent. of the men sober at the time of the crime, and seventy-six per cent. more or less under the influence of alcohol."—*Lt.-Col. A. B. McHardy, C.B., Edinburgh.*

17. "The total number of persons disposed of in Scottish Criminal Courts for crimes and offences in the year 1911 was 155,537, an increase of 3·5 per cent. on the total number for the previous year. The increase, *viz.*, 5,207 persons, is largely due to the number proceeded against for breaches of the peace and for drunkenness. It is doubtless owing to the increased industrial prosperity providing earnings to be misspent in the purchase of intoxicating liquors by a section of the population. Increases are noticed in malicious mischief, which is usually of a comparatively trifling nature, amounting to six per cent., and in assaults by husbands on wives, a crime influenced, no doubt, by drink, where the increase reaches nearly fourteen per cent."—*Judicial Statistics, 1911.*

18. Table of crimes and offences :	Total number convicted.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Drunkenness, and drunk and incapable ...	14,850	6,977	21,827
Drunk and disorderly	4,480	1,394	5,874
Drunk in charge of a child, &c.	642	479	1,121
Drunk, or drinking in a shebeen	28	8	36
Disorderly on licensed premises, or refusing to quit	146	11	157
Selling drink to habitual drunkards, &c. ...	9	5	14
Sale of drink to children	8	15	23
Falsely claiming to be travellers	357	5	362
Assaults by husbands on wives	2,050		2,050
Cruel and unnatural treatment of children ...	252	184	436

Judicial Statistics of Scotland for 1911.

19. "The Scottish Industrial Schools show an increase in admissions during the year 1911, as compared with the year 1910, thus :—Boys, 621, against 509 ; girls, 294, against 279 ; or a total of 915 against 788. About one-tenth were committed on account of their parents or guardians being of criminal or drunken habits."—*Judicial Statistics, 1911.*

20. "Half the total amount of crime is due directly, and an additional quarter indirectly, to our drinking habits, and the excessive opportunity for the creation, sustentation and growth of such habits."—*Canon Horsley.*

21. Regarding the Notting Dale district of the Royal Borough of Kensington, a Special Committee of Inquiry reported in 1912 that "The charges associated with drunkenness were in 1901, 206 men and 262 women ; in 1906, 353 men and 425 women ; and in 1911, 506 men and 666 women. The district is notorious for its evil-doers, overcrowding, vice, crime and drunkenness. Despite the poverty of the people in that area as in the Latimer Road district of Hammer-smith adjoining, public-houses and gin palaces flourish, and thus we have 1,171 men and women charged with drunkenness and with offences associated therewith in one year from a small area of one London borough.

22. "In England and Wales the total cases of conviction for being drunk, or drunk and disorderly, numbered in 1901, 189,350 ; and in 1911, 172,130. Since 1895 such convictions have decreased fifteen per cent. among men and twenty-three per cent. among women. It is, however, remarkable that in the years immediately following the Licensing Act, 1902, an act avowedly passed to grapple with intemperance and by which arrest for simple drunkenness was made possible, the convictions increased, the numbers being in 1903, 209,385 ; 1904, 207,730 ; and in 1905, 207,171. Then came a decline until 1910, when there were 161,992, and then the increase noted in 1911. Despite the fact that there were 172,130 convictions for drunkenness in 1911, only 714 licensed persons were convicted for offences under the Licensing Laws. There was over ten per cent. increase in convictions for drunkenness in England and Wales, six per cent. increase of men, four per cent. increase of women ; and five millions more were spent in liquor in 1911 than in 1910 in the United Kingdom."—*Licensing Statistics*, 1911.

23. In London convictions for drunkenness increased in 1911 and the figures are higher in London by fifty per cent. than in other centres of population. In 1910, 53,563 persons were arrested for being drunk or drunk and disorderly. In 1911 that number had increased to 60,780. Of these in 1910, 41,243, and in 1911, 46,712 were convicted.

These figures hardly support the view of Mr. Paul Taylor that "intemperance is gradually dying out." There is undoubtedly a very close connection between the number of licensed houses in a given area, and the number of cases of drunkenness, "The means to do ill deeds makes ill deeds done."

24. "The Newington, London, justices have exercised their full power of closing redundant licensed houses, and over one hundred such houses have been closed since 1904. In the Divisions of Lambeth and Southwark there was an actual decrease of convictions for drunkenness, compared with 1910. Those two districts have been mainly effected by the suppression of licensing, while Camberwell, where very few have been closed, shows an increase of 231 convictions."—*Free Church Council Memorial to J. J.*, 1913.

25. "Public-houses are places whence most crimes come," was Lord Coleridge's remark at the Liverpool Assizes, on October 31st, 1912, when an old collier named James Finch, aged seventy, was sentenced to ten months' imprisonment with hard labour for wounding Isabella Owen at Ince-in-Makerfield.

26. "A total of 14,568 persons were prosecuted for drunkenness in Liverpool during 1912, an increase over the preceding year of 2,558. Twenty-one per cent. of the increase was among sailors and firemen, and forty per cent. among labourers. The Chairman of the Licensing Bench, Sir Thomas Hughes, said it was serious to reflect that large numbers of the labouring classes looked upon better earnings as providing greater opportunities for obtaining drink."—*Licensing Sessions*, 1913.

Here we have additional evidence that prosperity and not poverty produces drunkenness in many cases. Sir Thomas Hughes supports thus the opinion of the Scottish Prison Commissioners.

27. "But Liverpool has a much wider experience than that of the famous ten days of early closing. She can appeal to twenty years' reform, and to a sweeping reduction of drinking facilities, and her testimony is the universal testimony—the testimony of America, of Sweden, of Ireland, and of Wales—that the fewer the public-houses and the shorter the hours of opening the less drinking and drunkenness, and the less poverty and crime. It is because restriction means decreased consumption that 'the Trade' is opposed to reform, and is so feverishly anxious to discredit its own power for mischief."—*The "Liverpool Daily Post" on Licensing Statistics, 1912.*

28. Sir Thomas Shann, Chairman of Manchester Licensing Justices, reported to the Manchester Justices of the Licensing Session of 1913 that the Justices, on visiting licensed premises during mornings and afternoons, found in some of them a number of women drinking; in one house they counted fourteen women sitting together and drinking. Compared with 1912 there had been an increase of 1,347 in the apprehensions for being drunk and disorderly.

Here, again, we have in Manchester, as in Liverpool and London, an ominous increase of drunkenness in a period of booming trade and plentiful employment. I propose to close this section with some extracts from the

REPORT OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON DIVORCE.

¶ 302. "It is the view of all the witnesses examined on this point that the use of alcohol to excess is a source of misery of the most serious character. Some of them place drunkenness as being at the root of most of the trouble in married life.

¶ 303. "It seems probable from the evidence given before us that habitual drunkenness produces as much, if not more, misery for the sober partner and the children of a marriage, as any other cause in the list of grave causes. Such inebriety carries with it loss of interest in surroundings, loss of self-respect, neglect of duty, personal uncleanness, neglect of children, violence, delusions of suspicion, a tendency to indecent behaviour, and a general state which makes companionship impossible."—*Majority Report, pp. 108-9.*

¶ 744. "I only wanted to get your view as to what you think persistent cruelty is. But I say this, if we got rid of drink—as I think one of the members of the Commission has said before—the doors of the Divorce Court might almost be closed."—*Lord Mersey, late President of Divorce Court.*

1,954. "Q. : Do you find that drink is a very conducing cause to all these troubles? A. : I do, indeed. I should like to add, in my eighteen years' experience, I think the drinking habits are improving. There is not so much drink."—*John Rose, Metropolitan Police Magistrate.*

7,875. Q. : We may take it that out of that 114 orders granted for cruelty, in a large number the cruelty was practically while under the influence of drink? A. : Drink is almost invariably a factor. I

have no bigoted views at all, but practically drink figures in the vast majority of cases that come into a court, drink on one side or the other, or both."—*B.C. Brough, Stipendiary in Staffordshire Potteries (Evidence, Vol. I.)*.

12,953. "But my view is, most of these cases are not persistent cruelty, but are what are not uncommon in the class that I see most of in my Court, namely, a blow and knock in the face, or black eye, or some other violence, and in very few cases does this occur except when a man is drunk. I have had very few cases of men fully in possession of their faculties, being guilty of great brutality to the women. The usual case is that, if a man comes home the worse of drink, the woman, unwisely perhaps, takes the opportunity of telling him her mind, and the man, being drunk, immediately strikes her, and she applies for a summons for separation."—*Mr. E. W. Garratt, Metropolitan Police Magistrate*.

22,032. "Q. : You gave us a good many illustrative cases of a very interesting kind, and I think a very large proportion of these domestic infelicities and difficulties of one kind and another are due to intemperance ? A. : Yes, that is so.

22,033. "Q. : A very large proportion ? A. : Yes, a very large proportion ; I think in some cases where one partner is intemperate, the other partner becomes hopeless after a time, and becomes intemperate also.

22,034. "Q. : And would it not be a fair inference that even in those cases where other causes are alleged, such as cruelty and neglect, and so on, that intemperance is also the factor in these cases ? A. : Oh, in many cases of neglect it is, and many cases of cruelty."—*Dr. H. Scurfield, M.O.H., Sheffield (Evidence, Vol. II.)*.

In an article on "Churchmen on the Divorce Problem," the following cases are quoted by *The British Temperance Advocate* for March, 1913, *viz.* :

"S. A., a young wife, twenty-eight years of age, ends her life by throwing herself into the river. During the four years of married life, in which two children were born, all that the husband gave her for household expenses were small sums ranging from four to ten shillings per week out of wages ranging from twenty-eight to thirty-six shillings. He drank the rest, and whilst in drink he had many times turned her out of the house, and had also kicked her, tied her to the back of the chair by her hair, and knocked her teeth out.

"P. B., a woman of thirty-seven years, after fifteen years of married martyrdom, in which she had been continuously struck, kicked, starved, and tortured by her drunken husband, is at last done to death by him. Mad with drink he attacks her with a coal pick, inflicting nine wounds on the head, from four of which the brain substance protruded."

DRINKING, PAUPERISM AND POVERTY.

1. "A great weight of evidence indicates drink as the potent and universal factor in bringing about pauperism. Some witnesses also indicate gambling as a serious and growing cause ; but gambling,

though it wastes the resources, does not lead to such physical and moral degradation as drink.”—*R. C. Report on “The Poor Law,”* 1909.

2. “Of drink in all its combinations, adding to every trouble, undermining every effort after good, destroying the home and cursing the young lives of the children, the stories tell enough. It does not stand as apparent chief cause in as many cases as sickness or old age, but if it were not for drink, sickness and old age could be better met. Drink must therefore be accounted the most prolific of all causes; and it is the least necessary.”—“*Pauperism and the Endowment of Old Age,*” by the Rt. Hon. Charles Booth.

3. “There are some sixty-two men in the old men’s department at our Workhouse. Recently the Guardians resolved on granting privileges to these men if they complied with certain conditions. For twenty years they must have a character that would bear investigation on the lines of the Pension Act. If they passed muster, then a card bearing the following inscription would be given to them: ‘The Bearer (*name*) is allowed to leave the Workhouse between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. without asking permission any day. Signed, The Governor.’ Only one man has applied so far and passed the test, he has been an abstainer twenty years, his position is due to two drunken wives. The great bulk of those in our workhouse have not taken care of their lives, their cash and their characters as they might, and ought to have done. The man referred to is allowed out in ordinary clothes and was present at our meeting in Lees Hall this afternoon.”—*W. E. Moss, Blackburn.*

4. “Take, for example, a typical case mentioned in the Report of the Royal Commission. In — Workhouse there were 258 men and 158 women—total 416. Of this number there were 175 men and twenty women in the Workhouse as the direct result of intemperance. The Master also stated that of the 416 inmates 205 could not be allowed out for a day’s leave without fear of their returning the worse for drink. Another case may be quoted from the same source showing the far-reaching effects of intemperance in producing pauperism:—Eldest boy, thirty-one, now in the Union infirmary, an imbecile. Daughter weak, bad eyes for years, and sent to the Ophthalmic Hospital; partly recovered and now in service. Son living at home, carter, but drinks. Son, aged ten, at school. Father dead some years, was a notorious drinker, constantly before the magistrates and fined; was an invalid the last seven years, and he, or his wife and family, on out-relief list for sixteen or seventeen years. I estimate this one case has cost from £250 to £300, and it is, in my opinion, due to the drinking habits of the father, though to anyone not knowing the history it would not be so classed. I believe this to be typical of many.”—*Lord Alverstone, L.C.J. at Int. Con. on Alcoholism, London, 1909.*

5. “It is not easy to say what exact percentage of pauperism is caused by drink, but all experience goes to show that a very large proportion (said by moderate men to amount to three-fourths) of those who become occupants of our workhouses, or who receive outdoor relief, reach their state of destitution through their own drunken habits or those of their close relations.

6. "A leading municipal worker in Manchester who made this matter a subject of special inquiry found that fifty-one per cent. of the pauperism of his own city was directly the result of drink, and much of the remaining forty-nine per cent. indirectly due to the same cause. In Newcastle exhaustive investigation produced a similar judgment. Evidence before the Poor Law Commission told a sadder tale, and my own recent applications for information on the subject received answers which may be summed up in the words of a very cautious and very able Clerk to a London Board of Guardians: 'Inebriety is evidently the cause of a large percentage of pauperism.'

7. "The woman often becomes worse and worse, adds immorality to her drunken habits, is abandoned by the husband, and helps to swell the ranks of the police-court inebriates. The man, when the labour market is full of decent workmen, fails to get employment; or he becomes idle and does not attempt to obtain it. He consorts with others similar to himself, neglects to provide for his family, becomes a mendicant tramp, and spends his existence in a continuous alternation between prison and liberty. During the prime years of his life he has to be kept in workhouse, prison, or lunatic asylum, and his family preserved from starvation by Poor Law relief; during later years he is permanently in a workhouse as a senile pauper."—*Rev. H. Russell Wakefield (now Bishop of Birmingham), in Report of 29th Annual Poor Law Conference, December, 1903.*

8. "It was particularly noteworthy that in regard to the causes of local poverty, it had been found from inquiries made in every diocese throughout England that there was not a single case in which drink was not mentioned."—*Dean of Norwich, 1909.*

9. "The causes of children being inmates of a workhouse in Kent are given by a member of the Board of Guardians as follows:—Parents given to drink, twelve; deserted, six; fatherless, ten; orphans, fifteen; and illegitimates, eight.

10. "From 'Poverty, a Study of Town Life,' by Mr. J. Seebohm Rowntree, of York, there is some most valuable evidence, which we quote with due appreciation. On p. 142, Mr. Rowntree says: 'There can be but little doubt, however, that the predominant factor (in poverty) is drink.'

11. "I have been unable to form any close estimate of the average sum spent weekly upon drink by working-class families in York, but a careful estimate has been made by others of the average sum expended weekly by working-class families throughout the United Kingdom. This average is arrived at, in the first instance, by dividing that portion of the yearly national drink bill which competent authorities assign to the working classes by the number of working-class families in England. This results in a figure of 6s. 10d. as the average weekly sum spent upon drink by each such family.

12. "This estimate has been examined in great detail by Messrs. Rowntree and Sherwell, who have tested the figure in a great number of ways. The result of their investigation is summed up as follows:—'That a large proportion of the working classes spend

very much less than the amount suggested is certain, but it is equally certain that a considerable number spend very much more, and when all possible deductions have been made, it is doubtful if the average family expenditure of the working classes upon intoxicants can be reckoned at less than 6s. per week.'

13. "There is no reason to suppose that the average sum spent upon drink by working-class families in York is lower than the average for the United Kingdom. An expenditure of 6s. per family upon drink would absorb more than one-sixth of the average total family income of the working classes of York."—(pp. 142-3.)

14. "'Secondary' poverty, it must not be forgotten, is often the outcome of the adverse conditions under which too many of the working classes live. Housed for the most parts in sordid streets, frequently under overcrowded and unhealthy conditions, compelled very often to earn their bread by monotonous and laborious work, and unable, partly through limited education and partly through overtime and other causes of physical exhaustion, to enjoy intellectual recreation, what wonder that many of these people fall a ready prey to the publican and the bookmaker?"

15. "The limited horizon of the mother has a serious effect upon her children; their home interests are narrow and unattractive, and too often they grow up prepared to seek relief from the monotony of their work and environment in the public-house, or in the excitement of betting. In York there were over 13,000 living in secondary poverty, that is those whose income is sufficient if some proportion were not used in some either useful or wasteful expenditure."—(pp. 144-5.)

16. "In a round of the public-houses which the writer made one Saturday evening in May, 1901, the fact of their social attractiveness struck him very forcibly. It points to the need for the establishment on temperance lines of something equally attractive in this respect."—(p. 312.)

17. "Observations on a public-house (a dingy-looking place) in a narrow street in the heart of district: In close proximity to it is a working-men's club, where much drinking is indulged in, and within five minutes' walk of it are thirteen other public-houses, three of them within one hundred yards. The house was watched on a Saturday in July, 1900, for seventeen consecutive hours. Five hundred and fifty persons entered the house during the day (six a.m. to eleven p.m., the first customer, however, entered at 7.40) and were made up as follows:—258 men; 179 women; and 113 children; total 550."—(p. 315.)

18. "Observation on a public-house in a busy thoroughfare: Close to a poor quarter, and trade is chiefly among the poor. There are fifteen public-houses within five minutes' walk of this one, and of these four are within one hundred yards of it. Total number of persons entering on a Thursday in August, 1900, 423; total number on a Saturday in August, 1900, 723."—(p. 321.)

19. Observations on a public-house in a broad thoroughfare of the wealthier residential district: Total number of persons entering on a Thursday in July, 1900, 452; and on a Saturday in same month, 683."—(p. 324.)

THE UNEMPLOYED AND THE UNEMPLOYABLE.

The evidence in relation to unemployables tends to show that many of them are ruined at the outset by influences of bad homes and evil surroundings. Drifting into 'blind alley' occupations, they lapse in time to the ranks of the physically and mentally incapable. Many others, however, now in the lowest ranks, have fallen from higher walks of life through drinking, gambling, dishonesty, vice or laziness. Very many now competing with the unskilled workers at the dock gates and crowding the common lodging houses would never have come to that condition but for the evil effects of alcohol, and the casual labourers would be relieved of their competition if this evil could be destroyed.

THE EVIDENCE OF SOCIAL INVESTIGATORS.

1. "An examination of the home condition of the 129 lads found unemployed in York on June 7th, 1910, revealed the fact that if we desire to stop the supply of unemployables at its source, we must begin early in life. Eighty per cent. of them started their industrial careers badly. They came from bad homes, and had, in many cases, neglected their educational opportunities.

2. "In my York investigation I came across case after case of men who, having once, through one cause or another, lost regular employment, had entirely failed to recover it. They had been forced by necessity to take whatever offered, and as the number of casual jobs is much greater than the number of permanent ones—especially for men past forty—they had drifted into casual work.

3. "The nature of such work makes it difficult for men to look for anything permanent, and so they pass from one casual job to another, with intervening periods of unemployment, growing longer as their age advances. I have seen man after man converted from 'regular work' to 'casual,' and from 'casual' to 'unemployable.' They become 'casuals' because they had no reserve to enable them to stand out until they could get another permanent job, and they became 'unemployable' because of the terribly demoralizing effect of the period of unemployment between their casual jobs."—"How to check the waste?" Rowntree.

4. "In all unions there are cases of men and women who are feeble minded, but who cannot be certified as imbeciles . . . It would be happier for all concerned if such people who are really incapable of looking after themselves could be prevented from taking their discharge, as while they are out what little money they earn or is given them is too often spent in drink, and they come back to the workhouse in a deplorable condition of filth, and what is a still greater evil, they are free to marry and have children, or, as is too frequently the case, they return with illegitimate children."—Lord Stradbroke, C.B., C.V.O., at Poor Law Conference, Guildhall, London, 1911.

5. "How can you get at the root of the evil in those poor people who are cared for in asylums other than by improved sanitation and the encouragement of temperance and thrift?"—H. Beaumont, Clerk to Wakefield Board of Guardians, at National Poor Law Conference, 1911.

6. "Sixty-two per cent. of inmates of homes for chronic inebriates, ten per cent. of prisoners, and over thirty per cent. of the inmates of rescue homes are feeble minded, and a considerable section of the unemployed."—*Sir William Chance, at Poor Law Conference, 1911.*

7. "Dr. Potts (Med. Investigator Royal Com. Feeble-minded) found that eighteen feeble-minded women in the Birmingham Workhouse had produced ninety-three illegitimate children; in another workhouse he found that sixteen feeble-minded women had produced one hundred and sixteen illegitimate children."—*Mrs. Pinsent, of Birmingham, at Poor Law Conference, 1910.*

MEN IN MUNICIPAL AND COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

8. "We have 708 men lodgers here at the moment; and I suppose 500 of these men are in regular daily employment. Numbers of them are Covent Garden porters, others men employed in subordinate capacities in the journalistic world, others travellers in a small way (patented articles and that sort of thing), then there are distributors of bills and some few pedlars, as well as men I should imagine who have occupied a lower position in life, men without much education but shrewd enough to make their living, a good many of whom spend a good proportion of their earnings on drink. Of course, if a man is absolutely intoxicated, we do not admit him, but we do get a number of men who have taken more than they should, and as long as they preserve order we have to overlook it. But there is, no doubt, a good deal of drinking amongst these men.

9. "Then there are perhaps one hundred men who absolutely live upon their fellow-creatures; they live on the men who are in work or upon their relatives, write begging letters, and have some means of being able to pay their lodging without doing any work themselves. If we find such men, we turn them out because they are a nuisance.

10. "Then we have envelope addressers and ticket writers, whilst there are many here of a much higher class than the majority of the residents. Sometimes people call here about them. For instance, we have a man here who is supposed to be a Doctor of Philosophy from Heidelberg University; and I should say perhaps one per cent. of these men are University men. They are supported by relatives better off than themselves, and I should attribute their fall to drink or similar sort of immorality. Relatives prefer to make them some allowance to keep them off; and they are generally reduced to rather an immoral attitude towards their fellow-creatures, considering it no harm to do their fellow-men.

11. "These are the most difficult people we have to deal with, always looking for faults, and because they have once been in that better station of life imagine that they must be treated in a different manner to the other residents, and that they should be entitled to a great deal more respect than the hard-working, straight-forward man. In nearly all these cases they drink a great deal; if they do not drink, there may be some other private reason for their downfall which I have not been able to diagnose. We had a medical man,

a consumptive, for instance. Generally speaking, they are undoubtedly parasites. You can tell the rough class of man, of course, who has not so much intelligence as the others, and I suppose we have two hundred of this class here.

12. "In another house in a working-class district I had some previous experience; a large number being dock labourers, and a large number of others who live on these men. Wherever there is a good deal of flourishing work a number of this class get round and live on the men who do the work. These dock labourers are heavy drinkers; they earn good pay, sometimes twelve to sixteen shillings a day, and instead of elevating themselves and saving money they nearly all abuse it.

13. "On a Saturday night it is a revelation to see the men and women drinking at the public-houses. But out of work or in work they always appear able to get the drink. If they do approach such bodies as the Salvation Army or the Church Army, it is only for the material benefit, and they are prepared to go to any extent for the sake of saying they have been reformed when endeavouring to get the right side of benevolent people.

14. "I have got Army officers from colonel to captains; Naval officers; lawyers, several B.A's, one M.A., and a lot of 'come down' tradesmen, once in good positions in all kinds of trade; many Army pensioners taking one to four shillings a day; a great number of mechanics, and besides the better class of street hawker a great many others who live by their wits. About ten per cent. of these are University men, twenty per cent. coming from the slums. Speculation and other vicissitudes of life are responsible for the downfall of some; but in the majority of cases they have come down through the drink."—*Superintendents of two of the largest Lodging Houses in London.*

SALVATION AND CHURCH ARMY STATISTICS.

Report on two hundred men discharged from Hadleigh Farm Colony, 1911-12:—

Ages.			Causes of Downfall.	
Highest	...	56	1. Drink	13%
Lowest	...	18	2. Dull trade (alleged) (drink probable)	29%
Average	...	38	3. Dull trade (strikes, &c.)	33%
			4. Ill-health and unfortunate circumstances	9%
Single	...	86%	5. Laziness and gambling	4%
Married	...	8%	6. Stealing	4%
Widowers	...	6%	7. Other causes	8%

Trade (classification).			Birth (town or country).	
1. Labourers	...	40%	1. London	53%
2. Skilled labourers	...	51%	2. English cities	22%
3. Mechanics	...	5%	3. English (country)	16%
4. Tradesmen	...	8%	4. Scotland, Ireland and abroad	9%
5. Professional	...	1%		

From an earlier analysis of 880 men who had been at the Salvation Army Colony at Hadleigh, fifteen per cent. belonged to professional and commercial classes ; twelve per cent. were skilled mechanics. Among them were doctors, solicitors, schoolmasters, teachers and travellers. The reason given by the men themselves for their downfall in twenty-two per cent. of the cases was drink. The Commissioner adds that a more particular classification would probably result in two-thirds of them being classed as destitute because of their more or less intemperate habits. It is interesting to learn that over seventy per cent. of the cases at the Colony turn out satisfactory.

Report on one hundred men discharged from the City Colony during 1912 :—

Ages.				Causes of Downfall.			
Highest	...	68		1. Drink	...	...	13%
Lowest	...	19		2. Illness and unfortunate circumstances	...	...	9%
Average	...	35		3. Gambling and laziness	...	...	8%
Single	...	84%		4. No work (reason given) (strikes, firms closed down, &c.	...	...	75%
Married	...	11%					
Widowers	...	5%					

Trades (classification).				Birth (town or country).			
1. Labourers	...	..	34%	1. London	...	...	40%
2. Skilled labourers	...	...	54%	2. English cities	...	...	29%
3. Mechanics	...	...	10%	3. English (country)	...	...	24%
4. Tradesmen	...	...	2%	4. Scotland, Ireland and abroad	...	...	7%

In the Church Army Labour Homes, according to the Report for year ending 1911, the total number of men received during that year was 4,712. The principal cause of their unemployment was admitted to be their own fault. In the London Homes 152 owed their condition to having been dismissed for incapacity, etc. ; 55 to drink ; 313 to being dishonest, and 80 owed their misfortune to illness. In the Provincial Homes 193 had been dismissed for incapacity, etc. ; 537 owed their position to drink ; and 513 to dishonesty, while 280 owed their misfortune to illness.

Among professed occupations there were represented in the London Labour Homes :—Accountants 3, actor 1, architects 2, artist 1, authors 2, cabinet-makers 22, carpenters 18, commercial travellers 10, doctor 1, draughtsmen 2, electricians 5, engineers 8, engine-drivers 2, gardeners 18, grooms 10, librarian 1, motor mechanics 5, and schoolmasters 2. In the Country Labour Homes there were :—Accountants 4, actors 2, analyst 1, architects 2, artist 1, art metal-workers 2, engraver 1, electricians 10, gardeners 84, motor mechanics 4, organ builders 2, organist 1, cabinet-makers 12, carpenters 107, chemists 13, commercial travellers 20, dentists 2, relieving officer 1, schoolmasters 4, solicitor 1, stonemasons 11, teachers 6, upholsterers 5, designers 3, dispensers 2, doctor 1, drapers 20, engineers 31, and engine-drivers 16.

HOUSING AND SOBRIETY.

One of the most hopeful matters in regard to Social Reform is the increasing attention being given to the necessity of providing sanitary and pleasant homes for the people. It is obviously impossible to rear a race of men and women who will be physically sound, mentally vigorous, and morally clean in foul and overcrowded slums. In and around many of our English towns and cities new areas are growing up of more decent houses and wider streets, and although brewers, philanthropically anxious to allay any alcoholic thirst of the residents, make repeated applications, at great expense, to Licensing Justices for new public-house licences in such areas, yet, in the main, the Licensing Justices realize that, in the language of the late Lord Watson, "they are a body interposed between the publican and the public for the protection of the public." Much more will be done by means of the Town Planning Act and other legislation, and by the beneficent influence of such an enlightened policy as that pursued by Messrs. Cadbury, at Bourneville, and Messrs. Lever Brothers, at Port Sunlight. It must, however, be borne in mind that if the trail of alcohol be allowed to enter, mischief will be done. The character of the people themselves is an important factor in housing conditions. The following facts will be of interest in this regard.

1. According to the Census Returns for 1911, there are 30,000 homeless persons in England and Wales, with 22,000 in London. In Bradford during 1911, the Report on Public Health states that a nightly average of 1,421 persons slept in common lodging houses.

2. "We think that the dwelling-place in itself will not make the drinking habit less or more. In the case of people that the Salvation Army has helped in the slums, their change of heart and life have at once changed their surroundings and home life, and sooner or later they leave slumdom, being able now to earn better money, and go to live in other localities, but their old abode is soon inhabited by those who are still drinking.

3. "Salvation Army nurses have also amongst the slum population many poor who are so from lack of work and other circumstances. They would not nurse, as a rule, in the home of a drunkard, for such would go to the infirmary, but amongst the struggling poor who are trying to keep their head above water and keep out of the 'house' the nurses find a useful field for their labours.

4. "The mother living in the slums is often there because of the drinking or laziness of the husband. The reason that married women are often in the labour market, and are frequently badly paid is on account of competition, and because so many women must earn bread for the family, the husband often being a ne'er-do-well, and also because women's labour can be secured at a cheaper rate than that of men.

5. "The slum dweller has not the same chance of keeping away from the public-house as the better-to-do, because of the number of beer shops in his neighbourhood, which are out of proportion, we think, in number to the places where liquor can be

obtained in better-class districts. The slum dweller has, in a large number of cases, come down from better circumstances ; we mean that the adult slum dweller has not in all cases been born in the slums."—*Report of S. A. Commissioner.*

6. " But the people themselves are indifferent tenants, and the landlords dare not do their best for them. We have lived long enough in the slums to discover that the drink trade dominates the social situation. We have succeeded in getting A. B. to sign the pledge, and come to the Mission. His wife has followed suit. In a very few weeks their home has been transformed ; the children are at Sunday School, and their clothes no longer in pawn, and the parents have actually made their appearance in new clothes at Church. We rejoice, but with trembling, for the question now is, how long will A. B. and his wife withstand the allurements of the public-house and the influence of its frequenters. There are so many drink shops that crowd these regions !

7. " As we visit from house to house, and gradually discover in sympathetic discourse, the family history of each household, we are confronted with the fact that drink is everywhere, trickling through all the experiences of life like a foul and poisonous stream, and working incalculable mischief. Nobody, in fact, seems to remain in these slummy streets except failures, and these failures are almost always due somehow to drink. If we are going to get rid of the poverty, the bad housing, the dirt, the recklessness, the lax morals, the brutalities of the slums, we must certainly remove these people from the drink trade or the drink trade from the people. Very much else indeed will remain to be done. But until we deal very drastically with the drink, all other reforms will either be impossible or futile."—*The Bishop of Lincoln's Lees-Raper Lecture, 1912.*

8. " Overcrowding causes drink. You have only to walk through the districts of the Inner Belt to become convinced of this. Where the streets are the dullest, and the houses the shabbiest, the drink shops flourish at every corner, and are always the largest and grandest and best lighted places in the neighbourhood. Shops for the sale of food, such as butchers and bakers, are not nearly so numerous as the shops for the sale of drink ; they seem to be about one-fourth less in number, and one-fourth less in size. His long experience as an East End magistrate led the late Mr. Montagu Williams to the conclusion that the public-houses were scattered about the streets there as thickly as though they had been rained out of some gigantic pepper-castor.

9. " Yet numerous though they be, they are all prospering. The public-house always will prosper as long as the overcrowded live near. The people are literally driven from their unhomely homes to its hospitable bars and good cheer. Try to live in one room of your own house for a few days, and see how soon you would long to rush out to any place for a change. What must it mean, then, to a man, after a day's work, to return to an overcrowded one-room tenement, where the wife has been washing and the children maybe are crying ? The late Dean of Manchester declared that if he lived in the slums, he, too, would take to drink.

10. "Drink, as a consequence of overcrowding, is a point which cannot be too strongly driven home. It is one which temperance reformers nearly always overlook. The property sweater, not the publican, is the enemy. The publican, as a man, is often the poor's good friend; but the property sweater never is. Drink may consummate a family's ruin, but it is overcrowding that drives the family to drink. As the Housing Commission pointed out: 'Discomfort of the most abject kind is caused by drink, but indulgence in drink is caused by overcrowding and its cognate evils.'"—*Mr. George Haw in "How the Poor live."*

This is the view held by many who have not closely studied the habits and lives of the people. The fact is, that while undoubtedly the slum helps the public-house, the public-house also creates and perpetuates the slum. When the dwellers therein cease to drink, they move to better quarters.

11. "Locally our slums are in galloping consumption. But all the while dirty women and worse men, with undisciplined children, are converting new districts into slums. I have found all sorts in the slums—proportion difficult to estimate. Rarely, however, does a man stay there once he signs the pledge and keeps sober. This afternoon a man presided over our meeting. His father intended him for an architect—he went wrong through drinking. Nine months ago he signed the pledge to abstain—he was then living in a model lodging house; with his wife he moved to a furnished room in a tenement house, then into a house of his own. I see this again and again. I have seen also, that a move into a better neighbourhood has caused a man to pull up, but rarely a woman. Better housing does not alter the drink crave in Blackburn."—*W. L. Moss, Blackburn.*

12. "In Heston Parish (Middlesex), at Cranford Lane, there is a small colony of houses built originally for brickmakers—there is one public-house there. The colony is quite by itself, surrounded by open fields, none but the least self-respecting live there. Gambling and other vices go on continually. To get a man to become a total abstainer is sure prelude to his leaving. Here are a few facts culled from this place, from the experiences of a district visitor:—(a) Girl suffering from St. Vitus' dance, *Father a drunkard*. (b) Girl very neurotic, *Father a drunkard*. (c) Child ill-clad and dirty, *Mother a drinker*. (d) Children mentally deficient, *Father was a drunkard*. Only two children have been fed this winter under the Provision of Meals Act of the five thousand under the Heston-Isleworth Education Committee—these two came from Cranford Lane. Many of the dwellers here have been better off, and have come here as the last resort."—*W. J. Lobjoit, J.P.*

13. The Justices of Birmingham made an investigation of an area in that city known as the Ladywood area, and from their report dated February, 1913, we learn that the area comprises 154 acres, and the density of the population is 125 persons to each acre. There are within the area forty-eight on-licences and thirty-five off-licences, being one licensed house to every fifty-two dwelling houses. It was calculated that from this poor and squalid area £1,250 each week are spent on intoxicating liquor, and it is not

surprising to find that there are in the same area ten pawnshops. The police patrols have to be doubled on Saturday and holiday nights in certain streets. The justices have very properly suppressed some of the licensed houses in this area at their 1913 Sessions.

14. The Special Committee of the Borough Council of Kensington appointed to inquire into the conditions of the Notting Dale district, reported in May, 1912, *inter alia* :—

That the structural and sanitary conditions of the houses are in no way abnormally defective, and that such defects as exist can be dealt with under the existing law.

That the unsatisfactory condition of things which prevails in the area must be attributed to the habits and conduct of the people, which fact materially increases the difficulty of dealing with the problems which present themselves for solution.

That excessive drunkenness prevails, especially among the women, and the question whether a further reduction in the number of licensed houses should be effected should seriously engage the attention of the justices.

15. "I owned eleven houses at Lower Edmonton, each containing five rooms, long garden at back, and garden in front with iron railings, bay windows with stone dressings; they were built eight years ago and cost £210 each to build. The road and paths are wide, with trees on both sides, electric trams from the top of the road, the station is close by, with workmen's trains running to the City. The rent of the houses was 5s. 6d. a week. I owned them for four years and lost £700 on them, and the worry they caused me money could not compensate. The majority of the tenants were drinkers and dirty in their habits; they spent most of their leisure time in the public-houses at the top of the road. The dirt bred vermin in abundance. The tenants would take the garden fence, cupboard doors, and banister rails for firewood; the rent I did get I had to go for at all hours of the day and at different times in the week."

16. "The gardens at the back were large enough to grow vegetables for their own use if they liked, and would have helped them over the winter. I pointed this out to the tenants, but there were only two who used their garden in this way. I tried to get them to buy the houses with the rent for £100 each, but they would not. They made the road lower and lower until I was compelled to get rid of the eleven houses for £100, free from any debts, sanitary or dilapidation notices. The people themselves made good houses and pleasant surroundings into practically a dust hole, where they were bringing up their children under bad influences. The children would sometimes go into the empty houses and steal the lead pipes and sell them. There has sometimes been lack of employment, but drink has played the principal part in making this a slum."
William Jones, Member of Kensington B.C.

17. "We have about 3,600 of a population in Port Sunlight, and a six days' licence at the Bridge Inn, but the sale of intoxicating

liquors at the Bridge Inn has no relation to the Village population. We have about 60,000 visitors annually, and it is for their meals and refreshments, much more than for any requirements of the Village, that the Bridge Inn caters. The Inn is managed by a Committee. Port Sunlight is a new community entirely built up by our founder within the last twenty-four or twenty-five years, and therefore there is nothing but new conditions; most of our houses have been built on virgin soil. There is no encouragement to intemperance in our social conditions, and among our workers it would not be tolerated."—*Cor. Lever Bros., Ltd.*

THE ECONOMICS OF THE DRINK TRAFFIC.

SOBRIETY.

1. Much controversy has arisen in regard to drinking and the employment of labour. Sometimes it is asserted that a cessation of drinking would lead to a falling-off of trade and an increase of unemployment. The facts and figures prove quite the contrary of that proposition. The money annually spent by the wage-earners in intoxicating liquor is estimated to be about £100,000,000, which means that drinking wastes and takes from the all too small wage fund that enormous annual sum.

2 A large proportion of those who drink to excess do so at the cost of home, food, clothing and furniture. The liquor money is not a surplus sum left in the hands of the working classes after spending sufficient for the comfortable maintenance of themselves and their families. There is, in very many cases, no possibility of such a surplus, and of those articles which are most needed for the comfort of life, the homes and families of the heavy drinker are deprived. In the manufacture and distribution of these necessities a greater number of persons is employed than is the case in the manufacture and distribution of liquor. It must also be remembered in this connection that the larger the number of persons there is engaged in manufacturing and distributing alcoholic liquors, the greater is the ultimate economic loss to the State. Alcohol is at best a dangerous luxury, not a necessity, and the wage-earners are spending a large part of their wage fund in a commodity which is absolutely unnecessary on the one hand, and which entails upon themselves and the community such a serpentine trail of evil results as is disclosed by this inquiry on the other. This foolish expenditure is producing and accentuating every evil condition in our social life.

3. I referred at the commencement of this Report to the economists who explore every nook and cranny of economic causation, but ignore the more serious liquor factor. A striking instance of this is given in the *Daily News* of October 10th, 1912. Mr. Chiozza Money, M.P., wrote at length upon the expenditure of the rich on motor cars and that of the poor on furniture. He showed that according to the census of production there is spent annually £9,000,000 on motor cars, and £9,500,000 on furniture, and then goes on to say :—

4. "What a striking contrast is afforded by the two sums we have named. In the one case we see a very limited number of

people drawn from the upper and the upper middle classes spending £9,000,000 a year on motor cars. In the other case, we see the entire nation spending £9,500,000 upon wooden furniture. As we know that the greater part of this £9,500,000 is spent by the upper classes, it is obvious that the expenditure of the great mass of the people upon furniture is almost negligible, and that in a country a very limited section of the upper circles of which can afford to spend £9,000,000 on motor cars.

5. "It is an unforgettable illustration of the effects of the ill-distribution of the national income, and it shows how trade is governed and directed by the distribution of income . . . The revelation by the Census of Production that this country spends almost as much upon motor cars as upon wooden furniture is a consequence of the ill-distribution of income. Millions of homes which sorely need wooden furniture, and the proper furnishings of which would create an enormous furniture trade, have to go without one of the primary means of comfort.

6. "We should do well, however, to remember that the first purpose of trade and industry is to provide a sufficiency of material things for all our people, and that under present circumstances the home trade is starved and crippled by the under-consumption of the mass of our 45,000,000 people. The nation has yet to realize that the poverty of the poor is not the misfortune of the poor alone ; it is the misfortune of the nation ; the misfortune of the nation's traders and manufacturers. Every traders' association formed to resist increases of wage is an association formed to put a restraint upon trade and to kill customers. It is only through the progressive expansion of the remuneration of the masses that trade can healthily increase."

7. It is true that a vast number of the working classes have not sufficient furniture, and many of them cannot obtain sufficient because of the smallness of their wages, but on the other hand, as the evidence shows, many of them earn large wages, and by the unwise use of their prosperity, instead of spending the money in buying furniture, and thus employing their fellow-wage-earners in making it and enriching themselves and their homes, it is spent on alcohol, which leads not only to their own impoverishment, bad health, domestic misery, and very often to the Criminal Court, but to unemployment.

8. A memorandum, prepared by the Editor of the NATIONAL TEMPERANCE QUARTERLY (June, 1913), from the Census of Production, the figures and deduction in which are confirmed by an official of the Board of Trade, shows that the manufacture of liquor employs less than one-third of the labour which would be employed by the expenditure of the same amount of capital in furniture, clothes and houses, and this is so, although alcoholic liquors are valued minus the duty payable upon them. When the duty is added together with the huge profits of the retail trades, the disparity between money spent in liquor and in useful and necessary commodities and the relative amount of that expenditure spent as wages becomes tremendous, and proves that the money spent in alcohol goes into a few channels, most of which are already con-

gested, whereas the money spent in necessary commodities is distributed, and flows like a health and life-giving stream among all classes of the nation, blessing him that spends and him who makes.

9. But, it is objected, you cannot draw any accurate comparison between labour employed, say, in making furniture, and that in making beer and spirits; you must trace everything down to the ground. Even so, it is submitted the proportion herein noted holds good. Take cabinet-making as an illustration. If we take the manufacture of barley into malt, thence into beer, beginning with the barley and the hops as raw material, and compare that with the cabinet-maker, who uses sawn timber, veneer, glue, glasspaper, locks and hinges, nails, brads and screws as his raw material, the disparity before mentioned between the respective amount of labour employed subsists.

10. But now trace each industry down to the ground. In the case of beer you have labour employed in ploughing the field, sowing the seed, reaping the harvest, planting and picking the hops, transport, etc. But compare those processes with those necessary in the production of the raw material of furniture. In that case the trees must be felled, sawn into timbers, cut into veneers, the iron must be got and wrought to make the nails and screws, the brass locks and hinges have to be made, the glasspaper and the glue employ labour in their manufacture. It is obvious that the many processes in which labour is employed, before a beautiful suite of furniture worth a hundred pounds can be produced ready for use in the home, require and employ a very much larger number of persons than are employed in making and placing one hundred pounds' worth of beer in a publican's cellar.

11. Further, when we consider the permanent value, beauty and utility of the furniture and compare that with the unnecessary beer, with its possible results in the case of some of its consumers, we realize how odious comparisons are. I leave the reader to form his own judgment of the matter after study of the valuable and helpful appended facts, but I do submit that the comparison of the money spent by the workers themselves on liquor, £100,000,000 per annum, needing, as many of them do, more clothes, better food, and more furniture, is a more striking instance of waste and unwise expenditure than is the case of the rich spending £9,000,000 a year upon motor cars. I agree the wages paid, as a whole, to the working classes should be higher than they are, but the sober workman, with his desire for a fuller life, more leisure and a higher education, better housing, clothing and furniture, and a nobler environment, is elevating the standard of life and comfort, and thereby helping to raise the general rate of wages paid, and to bring nearer the complete emancipation of labour.

12. The liquor industry commences with the destruction of good food, for there are 70,000,000 bushels of grain destroyed yearly in making liquor. In 1910 the sum of £157,604,658 was spent in intoxicating liquor in the United Kingdom, being £3 10s. 9d. per head of population. Mr. G.B. Wilson, B.A., in his annual letter to *The Times*, estimates the total expenditure of the United Kingdom on alcoholic liquors during 1911, upon the basis adopted by the late Dr. Dawson Burns, at £162,797,229, as compared with £157,604,658 in 1910,

being an increase of £5,192,571, which is equivalent to an annual expenditure of £3 11s. 10½d. for every man, woman and child in the land, or to a weekly outlay of just 6s. 9d. for every family of five persons.

13. During the last three years the Nation spent £475,000,000 on intoxicating liquor. The entire cost of Old Age Pensions, Health and Unemployment Insurance and Workmen's Compensation boons, which so materially help the worker, is only £31,000,000. What a difference in the scale of comfort, health and prosperity would be brought about by the workers spending the £100,000,000 per annum, now wasted by them on drink, in other commodities.

14. Take Blackburn; the last Census shows a population of 133,040. The proportion of money spent there is £478,060. Which means that that portion of population who use liquor spend over £1,300 every day in that town. When we deduct all the children and the large number of abstainers in the Kingdom the expenditure on drinking on the part of a portion of the population must be appallingly large.

15. There were in 1911, 115,362 licensed houses in England and Wales: 91,247 being on-licences; and 24,115 off-licences.

16. The number of persons employed in brewing and malting in the United Kingdom is 85,222; the number employed in spirit distilling is 6,510, or a total in breweries and distilleries of 91,732.

17. The following statistics of output in selected industries are taken from the Census of Production:

				Gross Output, etc.	Persons employed.
Woollen and Worsted trade	...	...	...	£70,331,000	257,017
Clothing and Millinery	...	...	...	64,488,000	440,664
Cotton Factories	...	...	...	176,940,000	572,869
Cocoa, Confectionery and Fruit Pre-serving	...	...	...	16,137,000	60,735
Bread and Biscuits	...	...	...	38,840,000	110,168
Boot and Shoe Trade	...	...	...	22,959,000	126,564
				<hr/> £389,695,000	<hr/> 1,568,017
Brewing and Malting	...	...	...	£54,093,000	85,222
Spirit Distilling	...	...	...	4,833,000	6,510
				<hr/> £58,926,000	<hr/> 91,732

These figures show that capital of £54,977,000 used in production of fruit, preserves, confectionery, cocoa, bread and biscuits employs 170,903 persons. The capital of £58,926,000 used in production of beer and spirits employs only 91,732 persons. The late Sir George White, M.P., said he knew of three breweries, each of which had greater capital than his own boot factory, but in his boot factory more money was paid in wages for labour than the three breweries combined.

18. The percentage of wages paid in one year to the capital employed in the business of boot manufacturers in Somersetshire

was thirty-six per cent. The percentage of the same to gross sales was twenty-six per cent. It will, of course, be understood that where sales have to cover general expenses, rent, travelling, salaries, discounts and interest and many other items the percentage of wages to actual cost of goods made would be about thirty-three per cent., *i.e.*, net cost of materials and wages. A great percentage of the cost of materials used being for wages also.

19. The profits of Messrs. Guinness & Co., Brewers, of Dublin, are over six times the amount they pay as wages. In a shoe manufacturing company in the West of England, employing 1,600 persons, the wages paid are six times the amount earned as profits.

20. The Brewery Manual, 1908, shows percentage of wages to capital, page 183 :—"Ind, Coope & Co., Romford ; share capital, £1,810,000 ; salaries and wages, £56,000 ; wages per cent., £3 1s. 11d." Page 288 :—"Taylor's Eagle Brewery, Manchester ; share capital, £140,000 ; salaries and wages, £4,008 ; wages per cent., £2 17s. 4d." Messrs. Clark, of Street, Somerset, boot manufacturers, pay forty-three per cent. in wages of the capital invested. *John Newton.*

21. Here is a striking confirmation of my contention from a brewery capitalist, Mr. Gaudin de Beaumont, Leeds, stockholder in Yorkshire breweries :—"In addition, the capitals of many breweries should be written down to reasonable proportions, and when the aforesaid are accomplished the mortgage securities will appreciate irrespective of political differences. *Further, as breweries employ comparatively small numbers of men the labour question does not arise as in railways and other industrial concerns.*"—*The Times*, October 15th, 1912.

22. It is true that some brewery concerns, mainly by reason of reckless purchases of licensed houses, have not been flourishing recently, but in order to know what the real profit-making nature of "The Trade" is, I append these few recent reports of brewery companies, from which it would appear that, despite the Finance Act and all the other "oppressive" Acts of the Government, the companies in question still manage to flourish, thanks to the folly of the nation.

23. Arthur Guinness, Son & Co., whose debenture debt has been eliminated, have a total capital of now £7,000,000, of which £5,000,000 is ordinary stock, and there is a reserve fund figuring at £1,360,000. The business, goodwill, plant, etc., is valued at £6,332,898 in the balance sheet, and there are investments amounting to £1,546,127. Illustrating the magnitude of this remarkable concern *The Times* gives the following statement of the annual profits on brewing, beginning with the year 1888 :

1888	...	£1,272,100	1908	...	£2,306,000
1895	...	1,334,900	1909	...	2,215,154
1900	...	1,549,500	1910	...	2,462,800
1903	...	1,978,700	1911	...	2,626,344
1906	...	1,992,300	1912	...	2,538,082
1907	...	2,269,000			

These brewers are not concerned with the tied-house system.

24 "A prosperous Provincial concern is the Hull Brewery Company, whose accounts for the nine months to September 30th, 1912, show a profit of £46,928, and, after deducting debenture interest, the net profit is £36,521. A dividend at the rate of eleven per cent. per annum has been declared, absorbing £10,725, compared with twelve per cent., equivalent to £7,800 for the whole of 1911. A bonus of five shillings has again been declared, and £12,500 placed in reserve, raising it to £200,000."—*The Times*.

25. At the annual meeting of 1912 of Messrs. Mitchell and Butler's Brewery, Birmingham, it was reported that in 1911 £345,813 profit was distributed. In 1912 the profit was £359,312, a dividend of fifteen per cent. was declared, and £60,000 carried to the reserve fund. Despite an increase in taxation, Mr. Mitchell said the effects of Sunday closing would be far-reaching and would lessen the takings of licensed houses by more than one-seventh. Another director said, in speaking of the increase of the year's profit, "There has not been such a notable increase in the turnover since the South African War. The country is now in a prosperous condition, and the brewers are getting some of the benefit of that prosperity."

26. At the quarterly meeting of the Chesterfield Licensed Victuallers' Association on February 20th, Mr. C. Wright, Sen., President, was in the chair. The Chairman asked if they could find a man holding a licence who did not do a bit of gambling somewhere, and the man who did the least gambling in the world was liable to be caught. "Some houses could not carry on without doing a little bit," he declared.—*Brit. Temp. Advoc.*, March, 1913.

27. This anti-social trade is carried on thus profitably at the cost of weakening and destroying all which makes an individual happy, efficient and prosperous, and all which makes a nation truly great. The people perish in order that brewery shareholders shall have high dividends, and children go to school ragged, dirty and hungry that distillers may flourish.

28. "The prevalence of intemperate habits in a country diminishes both the number of days in a week, and the number of years in his life during which the breadwinner is earning full wages. Temperance increases a man's power, and generally his will to save."—*Professor Marshall*, in "*Economics of Industry*."

29. "Viewed from the economic and political standpoint, and having regard to the fact that the workers must eventually be the instrument of their own political salvation, I have no hesitation in saying that there is no factor which is keeping the workers back more than is to be found in connection with the liquor traffic."—*Arthur Henderson*, M.P.

30. "The longer I live the more the Temperance movement appeals to me. No matter what problem I approach, whether it be that of the children, of the unemployed, of the aged or of housing, I find it complicated and made more difficult by its association with drink. There is not one social problem existing in the land which would not be infinitely more easy of treatment and solution if we had not to deal with drink."—*Philip Snowden*, M.P.

DRINKING HABITS IN RELATION TO SOCIAL LEGISLATION.

THE foregoing evidence must convince every impartial mind that the liquor factor in social conditions cannot be ignored, but must be faced and grappled with.

This has become more imperative by reason of recent social legislation dealing with unemployment. The Acts empowering the feeding of necessitous children, the payment of Old Age Pensions and that providing for National Insurance make the growth of sobriety and temperance reform absolutely necessary for the State. There is a danger of weakening individual effort and endeavour, and of encouraging thriftlessness and social parasitism.

With the spread of abstinence principles and with the adoption of a drastic measure of Temperance Reform as a corollary of the legislation before mentioned, this danger will disappear.

There are people who, while the State or local authorities feed their children, are encouraged thereby to neglect their parental duties, and who are willing to allow their sober neighbours, who feed their own children, to be taxed in order to feed the children of those who spend part of their wages in beer and gin. Thus there is a grave danger that the sober and industrious may be penalized for the benefit of the idle and the drunken.

Take again the matter of Old Age Pensions, undoubtedly one of the most necessary and beneficent pieces of legislation of recent years. There are thousands of working men who have all their lives been sober and thrifty, and who, as a result of their careful industry, have an income of more than £31 10s. per annum. If such a man has purchased his house, the rental value of such house is regarded as income, and if the total income be over the sum mentioned, such a man does not get his old-age pension, and there are many such who have to earn what they can to augment their very slender resources, although over seventy years of age.

By their side are those, comparatively few in number, it is true, who survive to be over seventy, who have wasted their resources in more or less degree upon the publican and the bookmaker, who have enriched the brewer and impoverished themselves, but who enjoy their old-age pensions.

In regard to the great blessing of the maternity benefit of the Insurance Act, there are instances of its abuse by reason of drinking and the drink crave. In July, 1913, there were published, in *The Daily News*, cases of abuse of maternity benefit on the part of husbands cited by Miss Margaret Llewelyn Davies and Miss Margaret L. Bondfield, of the Women's Co-operative Guild, in support of their claim for making the benefit the legal property of the mother.

At the same time was published a statement by Dr. Alfred Salter, a Bermondsey panel doctor, to the effect that no such cases came under his notice. In this connection Miss Llewelyn Davies

wrote in reply to Dr. Salter, giving other cases of the abuse of the maternity benefit, as follows :—

A man had drink from a publican to the value of 27s., which he paid up when he drew the 30s. maternity benefit.

A wife summoned her husband for ill-treating her just after her confinement because she paid the midwife and had used the 30s. and not given him any of it, which he wanted for drink. The 30s. had been given to her in the first place.

A midwife attached to our District Nursing Association told me of one case where the Secretary of the society came to pay over the benefit and the wife asked that the husband should not receive it, as he would not go to work whilst it lasted, and it ended in the wife receiving it in weekly instalments.

Miss Davies pointed out that Dr. Salter spoke only of confinements attended by a doctor and nurse, and his experience was therefore comparatively limited. This abuse has been more strictly guarded against by the amending Act, whereby the mother has the legal right to the payment of the maternity benefit.

Then, as to unemployment relief. During the last period of administration of out-of-work relief in the Borough of Shoreditch, there were two typical men, both young workmen, living in the same street, engaged in the same trade ; one, who lived with his wife and child in two rooms, was a man who drank away a good part of his wages, the other man and his wife and two children occupied three rooms in the same street and were both abstainers. Both men became unemployed at the same time.

In the course of a week the drinker, who had no savings and owned but poor furniture and shabby clothing, went to the Distress Committee and was sent to work on a labour colony, being paid thirteen shillings a week, while another thirteen shillings a week was paid by the Committee to his wife.

The other man and his wife lived on their savings for about five weeks and then he, in his turn, went to the Distress Committee for work with this result : Looking at the applicant and noticing his respectable appearance, the Chairman said, " Where do you live ? " and then " Do you owe any rent ? " " No." " Have you got any pawntickets ? " " No." " Have you sold any of your furniture ? " " No." " Well, it's no good of you coming here ; you are not the sort of man we can help."

This incident, which is in every particular verifiable, is an instance of the possibly degenerating effect of schemes of relief. Without discussing, however, the wisdom or otherwise of such methods, the fact remains, the sober, hard-working man is not only penalized by being kept outside the ambit of relief, when even such may become necessary, but he is rated and taxed to keep those who have not been so self-helpful as himself, and who are thus enabled to pour more money into the insatiable maw of the liquor traffic.

If after perusing the evidence herein there should be anyone sceptical as to the nature and extent of the liquor evil, let such a one walk or ride through some of the main arteries in the poorer districts of London or any large town on a Saturday and a Sunday

night and see for himself the drinking going on inside and outside the all too numerous public-houses in such districts; he will then understand the truth and the force of what the late Lord Randolph Churchill said in the House of Commons, "The Liquor Traffic is a devilish and destructive traffic."

Another important point is established by the facts collated, and that is that drinking and its dire results is not an evil confined to the working classes. Dipsomania has as many victims in proportion to population among the upper and middle as among the working classes. The records of the Lodging Houses, of the Church Army and the Salvation Army show that a large number of those who come to the lowest conditions, and who therefore compete with ordinary casual labour, turning that competition into a fierce and selfish conflict for existence, are persons who held higher rank, and who, but for drink, vice or crime, would not have been in the slums or at the dock gates. The records of male and female inebriate homes and asylums conclusively show that drunkenness and dipsomania are prevalent among the rich and the educated, and prove the hollowness of the oft-repeated contention that drunkenness is merely a result of bad environment.

The whole case herein proves alcohol to be unnecessary and injurious to physical, mental and moral health, and economic well-being. The manufacture and distribution of liquor is a wasteful process, destroying grain and wasting labour, and the whole liquor traffic is anti-social and parasitic. The patriotic endeavour of every citizen should be to reduce and to destroy this dangerous accretion on the body politic.

. The . National Temperance Quarterly.

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APPENDIX:—THE CENSUS OF PRODUCTION.

MEMORANDUM BY JOHN TURNER RAE,

Secretary of the National Temperance League, and Editor
of the "National Temperance Quarterly."

THE RETURNS issued by the Board of Trade in 1912 afford some useful data from which it may be shown that transference of expenditure from drink to the purchase of such commodities as are essential to the maintenance of the home of the ordinary worker largely increases the demand for labour and the spending power of the industrial classes.

An analysis of the Returns relating to trades supplying the domestic demands of the people shows that there are over four millions of persons employed in the home-manufacture of essentials, whereas there are only 184,000 engaged in the production of drink and tobacco, admittedly non-essentials. The net annual value of the output of the former trades is shown to exceed 366 millions, as against forty-three millions of the latter, which were the proportion of labour to output equalized, ought to employ a million and a half, instead of about one-eighth of that number.

Dissection of the various tables enables a fairly accurate computation to be made of the different classes of manufactured goods and labour-employing agencies which contribute to the material comfort of the home and the physical well-being of the family. The following carefully prepared comparison of the average value of output per person employed in these with the figures for the Liquor Trade shows conclusively the economic disadvantage of the latter :

I. (a)	<i>Food</i> —Including milling, bread and biscuit making, cocoa and confectionery manufacturing, sugar refining, fruit preserving, provisions, &c.	£119
(b)	<i>Clothing</i> —Including boots and shoes, linen, woollen, worsted and cotton goods, hosiery, tailoring, dressmaking, millinery, and laundry, cleaning and dyeing, &c.	71
(c)	<i>Furniture</i> —Including plain and upholstered, bedding, blinds, china and earthenware, sundry utensils and furnishings	94
(d)	<i>Housing</i> —Including building, repair and manufactured materials of residential, business, official and religious premises; construction of roads, rail and tramways, sewers, gas and water mains	84
(e)	<i>Sanitation</i> —Including lighting and heating—gas, coal, water, soap, &c.	127

II. (a) <i>Drink</i> —Brewing and Malting	£331
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Compounding and Rectifying ...	354
Bottling	155
Coopering	91
Aerated waters, cider, British wines, non-alcoholic beverages and vinegar	125
(b) <i>Tobacco</i> —(Of 37,648 employees only 7,233 are men over eighteen years of age) ...	155

The net value of the average output of each person occupied in the specified trades (I.) is £85, whereas that of each person engaged in the manufacture and manipulation of alcoholic beverages, as indicated, (II.) is £254. Tobacco may be eliminated from the survey, but there is an item which should be brought into account in the due consideration of the values of beer and spirits, viz. : Excise duty (beer, £13,117,000 ; spirits, £18,511,392). This, but for the desirability of under rather than over statement, should be added to the net output before the *per capita* calculation is made ; this would bring the value of beer output per person employed up to £485, and that of spirit distilling up to no less than £3,064 !

The several methods of presentation adopted above combine in proving their own substantial accuracy, as well as that of the figures promulgated by Sir Michael Hicks Beach in the year 1891, in the Board of Trade Return (Cd. 6,535), upon which temperance economists have been accustomed to rely for their statement that the reproductive trades employ three times the amount of labour employed in the Liquor Trade. A further element of favour to the Trade, in addition to the omission of the excise duty from calculations of the net output, is afforded by the inclusion of aerated and other non-excisable beverages, which materially reduces the figures of comparison ; without these favourable factors the economic indictment of the Drink Trade would be enormously strengthened.

There are 2,373,125 men over eighteen years of age returned in the Census of Production as engaged in the occupations represented in the preceding statistics. These men should be the principal consumers of the home-manufactured products enumerated, by providing them for their families. There are, however, still comparatively few industrial homes in which there is sufficient room, food, clothing, furniture or warmth. The transference of but half of their present expenditure in drink by these men to proportionate purchase of essentials would not only absorb the half of brewery and distillery workers presumably discharged, but would employ at least an additional hundred thousand men.

These facts should bring home to the worker the truth that the first step to higher wages, and reproductive labour, is for him to do his reciprocal share in the maintenance of his own industry.



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